

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 4135.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1907.

PRICE
THREEPENCE.
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.

Lectures.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

BARLOW LECTURES.

The BARLOW LECTURER on DANTE (Rev. Dr. MOORE, Principal of St. Edmund Hall, Oxford) proposes to give a COURSE of TWELVE LECTURES on the "PARADISO" on WEDNESDAYS and THURSDAYS, at 5 P.M., beginning February 6.
The Lectures will be delivered at UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, GOWER STREET, LONDON, W.C., and are open to the Public without Fee or Ticket.

Further particulars on application to the undersigned.
WALTER W. SETON, Secretary.

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B. HACKFORTH,
Clerk to the Education Committee.
54, Old Steine, Brighton, January 23, 1907.

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February 8, 1907.

C. SYDNEY WATSON, Clerk to the Council.
Town Hall, Walthamstow, January 23, 1907.

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(Signed) FRAS. M. BOWEY, Town Clerk.
Town Hall, Sunderland, January 23, 1907.

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LITERATURE

The Digger Movement in the Days of the Commonwealth. By L. H. Berens. (Simpkin, Marshall & Co.)

To the statesman of the moment neither the personality nor the opinions of a reformer who possesses no power are of importance. When, in the spring of 1649, Gerrard Winstanley and his followers began to give practical assertion—in a society based in every detail upon land-ownership—to the doctrine that land-ownership was a violation of justice, by digging up the common lands on St. George's Hill—ground, by the by, of hopeless infertility—it stood to reason that it only needed the visit of two or three country gentlemen, supported by a few of Fairfax's soldiers, to consign him and his enterprise, first to the discretion of the Kingston magistrates, and then to the oblivion in which—except for some passing reference by a conscientious historian—they have remained until their rescue by the author of this deeply interesting book.

But all students of the undercurrents of Commonwealth history; all ardent visionaries of social reform, however hopeless they may recognize their aspirations to be; all who can find interest in the workings of an ecstatic though powerful mind in the domain of personal religion, of personal relation to God, expressed in language often of remarkable eloquence and beauty, will be grateful to Mr. Berens for his revival of this voice crying, literally, in the wilderness—this picture of the apostle who, hoping against hope, almost isolated in an unsympathetic world, gave his whole being to his mission, and in so doing became the founder of that body of men, still in our midst, who,

outliving all scorn and persecution, have ever held with patient constancy to purity of life and thought, and who go, with unerring instinct, and careless of the world's opinion, to the root of moral or social problems. For it is beyond all question that Gerrard Winstanley, and no other, was the spiritual founder of the Quakers.

That Mr. Berens writes with the keenest sympathy for his subject is evident. No one who lacked that sympathy would have devoted to such a subject the amount of time and labour implied by the necessary research. But, except for the first three introductory chapters, which might well have been omitted as in no way necessary, and occasionally provocative of criticism, he has written not a word too much. The great value of the book, indeed, consists in the fact that nine-tenths of it are made up of extracts from Winstanley's writings, judiciously marshalled so as to exhibit him in the fourfold character of "Mystic and Rationalist, Communist and Social Reformer." It follows that no adequate notice can be given of such a work except by means of quotation to an extent impossible within the compass of a review. From quotation, however, we cannot altogether abstain. The doctrine of the "inner light" has had believers, and eloquent apostles, in every age when men were constrained by the impulses of their time to "ponder their own hearts"; but Winstanley's power of expressing it may be seen from these few sentences, chosen from the long series contained in the text:—

"Friends, do not mistake the resurrection of Christ. You expect that he shall come in a single person, as he did when he came to suffer and die, and thereby to answer the types of Moses's law. Let me tell you that if you look for him under the notion of one single man after the flesh, to be your Saviour, you shall never, never taste salvation by him.... If you expect the resurrection of Jesus Christ, you must know that the spirit within the flesh is the Jesus Christ, and you must see, feel, and know from himself his own resurrection within you, if you expect life and peace by him."

Again:—

"So that you do not look for a God now, as formerly you did, to be a place of glory beyond the sun, moon, and stars, nor imagine a Divine Being you know not where; but you see him ruling within you; and not only in you, but you see and know him to be the Spirit or Power that dwells in every man and woman, yea, in every creature, according to his orb, within the globe of the creation.... I have said that whosoever worships God by hearsay, as others tell him, and knows not what God is from light within himself; or that thinks God is in the heavens above the skies.... this man worships his own imagination, which is the Devil."

To words such as these there doubtless was, as there has been, and ever will be, a response in many a devout and in many a lonely heart. But Winstanley was a Communist and a land reformer as well as a mystic, and troubles ensued when he proceeded to challenge a settled and traditional order of society by putting

into practice the theories contained in the following utterances:—

"Therefore we justify our act of digging upon that Hill to make the Earth a Common Treasury. First because the Earth was made by Almighty God to be a common Treasury of Livelihood to the whole of mankind in all its branches, without respect of persons.... Secondly because all sorts of people have lent assistance of purse and person to cast out the kingly order as being a burden that England groaned under. The main thing that you should look upon is the Land, which calls upon her children to be free from the entanglements of the Norman taskmasters. For one third part lies waste and barren, and her children starve for want, in regard the Lords of Manors will not suffer the poor to manure it.... Let the Gentry have their enclosures free from all enslaving entanglements whatsoever, and let the Common People have the Commons and Waste lands set free to them from all Norman enslaving Lords of Manors."

So, resolved "to try the uttermost in the light of Reason to know whether we shall be Freemen or Slaves,"

"I took my spade and went and broke the ground upon George Hill in Surrey, thereby declaring Freedom to the Creation, and that the Earth must be set free from entanglements of Lords or Landlords.... For which doing the old Norman Prerogative Lord of that Manor caused me to be arrested for a trespass against him in digging upon that barren Heath."

Whereupon there followed "unrighteous proceedings of Kingston court," at which the jury, "made of rich Freeholders, and such as stand strongly for the Norman power," brought in damages against Winstanley and his friends "of 10*l.* a man, and the charges of the Plaintiff in their Court, twenty-nine shillings and a penny." The theory that all private property in land had begun with the Norman kings, and that, since kingly power had now been ended, private ownership had *ipso facto* ended too, received scant sympathy from the rich freeholder.

In the indignant protest which Winstanley made upon this "oppression" we have a curious echo of the Peasants' Revolt in the reign of Richard II., when, with a sure instinct, the people turned their hate upon the lawyers:—

"England is a prison: the varieties of subtilties in the Laws preserved by the Sword are the bolts, bars, and doors of the prison; the Lawyers are the jailers; and Poor Men are the Prisoners. For let a man fall into the hands of any, from the Bailiff to the Judge, and he is either undone or weary of his life. Surely this power, the Law, is the burden of the Creation, a nursery of idleness, luxury, and cheating, the only enemy of Christ, the King of Righteousness!"

It is not possible to follow this foredoomed protest against the most cherished conventions of society to its pitiful close. After bearing with patience the hardships, the mockery, and the brutal and unthinking violence which are always the portion of the reformer who is not wanted—after suffering the destruction of their barns and tools, and the rooting-up of their growing crops—after seeing 'Vindications,' 'Appeals,' and 'Declarations'

to the Parliament, to London, to the Council of State, and to the army alike fruitless—the Diggers had at length to appeal for subscriptions from the charitable to save them from starvation. The failure was pathetically complete, and this little episode in the great drama of the seventeenth century speedily passed into total oblivion. Yet the idea of which it was the expression—the idea that common lands are the property of the common people, to be dealt with as the source of a common provision for life—asserted itself once more, though in a coarser form, in the year just closed, only to meet with precisely the same fate, for the same reasons. The Diggers of waste lands in Lancashire and in Essex in 1906 were the lineal descendants of the Diggers of 1649.

We are unable to go further in our notice of this most instructive book. We can only mention Mr. Berens's full and careful analysis of Winstanley's 'Utopia,' in which the "Prophet" attacks the existing order of society in every one of its phases and manifestations, and suggests remedies, many of them worse than the disease, and all hopelessly impracticable. Mr. Berens has, wherever he has allowed himself to appear, written, as we have said, with a keen sympathy (expressed in language of entire moderation) with Winstanley's ideals; and we cannot forego one extract from his 'Concluding Remarks.' Winstanley himself, his doings and his writings, may have been forgotten; but

"what Winstanley regarded, and what a steadily increasing number of earnest students to-day regard, as a fundamental social truth was revealed to him; and right well he gave expression, by words and deeds, to his strong conviction of the equal claim of all to the use of Mother Earth, to the use of the nation's natural home, workhouse and storehouse, whence, by labour, anything necessary to life and comfort can alone be derived. . . . The rights of man, the material, moral, and spiritual interests of the masses of mankind, their emancipation from the unjust economic conditions to-day enthralling and impoverishing them, narrowing and degrading their lives, hindering the advance of the race to a nobler civilization, to a higher plane of individual and social life, depend upon our recognizing and enforcing the claim of all to the use of the Earth, and to share in the bounties of Nature, upon equitable terms. What Winstanley discovered and proclaimed in the seventeenth century Henry George rediscovered and again proclaimed in the nineteenth century."

Once more we thank Mr. Berens for his book. The visionaries of the world are not too numerous. They aspire, they suffer, and they pass, while the world scarcely casts upon them a careless eye. As with Gerrard Winstanley, no one cares even to know when or how they die. It is well that to one of them some recompense should come at the last.

English Literature, from the Norman Conquest to Chaucer. By William Henry Schofield. (Macmillan & Co.)

THE definition of the scope of this volume contained in the title is perhaps not really

ambiguous, but it seems somewhat likely to be misapprehended. Many readers, probably, will suppose that the portion of literary history treated in the volume includes the age of Chaucer. In reality, the period with which Prof. Schofield has dealt is that between the Norman Conquest and the beginning of Chaucer's poetic career. It is true that these chronological limits have not been rigorously observed. Some works of the second half of the fourteenth century, and even later, are brought in, on the ground that they retain certain features characteristic of an earlier epoch than that of their actual composition; and others, for reasons connected with the peculiar method of the book, are treated only so far as regards their derivative material and its sources, the consideration of their artistic form and of what is original in their substance being reserved for the succeeding volume of the series. Some of the writings of Chaucer and Gower are among those which receive this anticipatory notice. In the main, however, the volume may, with tolerable correctness, be said to be occupied with the literary history of England during the three hundred years after 1066.

Of the literature produced by Englishmen in this period, nearly all that is strongly original in substance was written in Latin or French. The vernacular writings of the time consist, in an overwhelming proportion, of translations or more or less free imitations of works in those languages. Prof. Schofield is therefore entirely justified in devoting a large part of his space to the Anglo-Latin and Anglo-French literature which was the principal organ of the intellectual movement of the age. The chapters professedly treating this part of the subject occupy about a third of the volume; and in the remaining two-thirds more attention is given to the sources of the vernacular literature than to the works themselves. As Prof. Schofield himself remarks, he has dealt rather with the matter of English poetry than its manner. Even the development of metre during the period is held over for the next volume, in which it is to be studied retrospectively in its bearing on the poetic art of Chaucer and his contemporaries.

Both the strength and the weakness of Prof. Schofield's work may be expressed by saying that it is written from the point of view of a "Professor of Comparative Literature" rather than from that of an expert in the special literature of Middle English. It is, indeed, evident that he has conscientiously read the works which he discusses, but a few curious slips appear to indicate a certain want of familiarity with matters which a specialist in this department could not fail to know intimately. It is startling to find two lines of the 'Alisaunder,' assigned to "Adam Davy (†1312)"; the quotation would seem to have been incautiously taken at second-hand from some writer of the long-past time when that fanatical poetaster was credited with the authorship of the whole contents of the MS. in which his 'Dreams' have been preserved.

Anything more unlike the style of Adam Davy than the charming verses of the 'Alisaunder' could not well be imagined. Another inadvertence—trivial, but in the same way significant—is the statement that two of the three fragments of alliterative Alexander romances "may have belonged to a single work, formerly of great length. . . . called 'The Wars of Alexander.'" The repeated mention of Trevisa under the appellation of "John of Trèves" would be a misleading pedantry (for Trevisa was unquestionably an Englishman), even if it were true that the surname had any etymological connexion with Treves, which it certainly has not. The account of 'The Vision of the Monk of Evesham' shows want of acquaintance with the well-established fact that "Evesham" in the title is a fifteenth-century blunder for Ensham.

Mistakes of this kind are intrinsically unimportant, but they indicate that Prof. Schofield has studied the vernacular literature of mediæval England less for its own sake than as illustrating and completing the history of the common European ideas and literary motives in which he feels a more direct interest. Students who have approached the subject from the opposite side—those with whom the study of the native literature is the first concern, and that of its sources and models merely auxiliary—will, we think, complain with some reason that the book gives too little prominence to what is really distinctive in the English writings of the period; that the relations between the literature and the general history of the people are inadequately treated; and that the author's characterization of individual writers is often wanting in definiteness of apprehension. At the same time, it is impossible not to admire the extraordinary skill with which Prof. Schofield has contrived to find room in this moderate-sized volume for some notice of the contents of nearly every work written in England during his special period, as well as of many of later date, without ever falling into the style of a mere catalogue, or producing the impression that any detail is introduced irrelevantly. And it is no small merit in the book that it treats the literature of the pre-Chaucerian age as forming one whole, irrespective of the language in which the particular works happened to be written. The illuminative value of this method is so great that its incident disadvantages are comparatively of little importance.

It is a natural consequence of the author's general point of view that the arrangement of the book is determined rather by the affinity of subject-matter in the works discussed than by their date of composition. This plan has some obvious conveniences, but for readers to whom the subject is new the disregard of chronological sequence may prove rather embarrassing. Substantial help may, however, be obtained from the excellent chronological table, which is arranged in four parallel columns—the first for the historical events, the others

for the Latin, French, and English writings respectively. The Bibliography is also unusually full, and, accurate. The Index we cannot so highly praise; it is copious enough, but its method is faulty. When a proper name is followed by the numbers of all the pages where it occurs in the text, without anything to show whether the passage referred to contains more than a bare mention (the name of Chaucer, for instance, has *ninety-three* such references!), the entry might, for all practical purposes, as well have been omitted altogether.

Prof. Schofield's style is attractive and free from affectation, and the book shows no trace of the addiction to hazardous speculation with which he has sometimes not unjustly been reproached. With regard to the deficiencies which we have found in this volume, it must be remembered that it is only the first part of a history of English literature extending to the Elizabethan age, and that as the method of the work is not strictly chronological, some of these deficiencies may be supplied in the following volume, to the appearance of which all students of the subject will look forward with lively interest.

Honoré de Balzac. By Ferdinand Brunetière. (J. B. Lippincott Company.)

THE reputation of Balzac as a novelist has lately been attacked with considerable vigour, notably by M. André Le Breton, whose opinions were summed up in his remark that the 'Comédie humaine' was left by its author in the condition of a rough draft, vast, but nearly devoid of truly great qualities. Almost the last work of M. Brunetière was a vindication of Balzac's fame. It was written, in French, for the special purpose of the American series of critical biographies in which, as translated by Mr. R. L. Sander-son, of Yale, it now appears. The publishers describe the book as "an exhaustive biographical and critical study of its subject"; but the author requests the reader not to look to him for a biography, and he makes no attempt to provide one. He has gone over fields trodden by many predecessors, without discovering either new flowers or new weeds. In chapters dealing with such questions as "The Historical Significance," the "Social Bearing," the "Morality," and the "Influence" of Balzac's work, he states, with an understanding and impartiality hardly ever obscured, his own feelings and opinions with regard to the wonderful monument which is the 'Comédie humaine.' More unreservedly than any other critic of wide influence, Taine himself not excepted, he asserts his conviction that Balzac was as great as he thought and said that he was, if not precisely for the same qualities; and that the faults most frequently found in the novels are faults, not of their author, but of the society which he described. "I say that the right of representing life in its entirety is the right, nothing more, but nothing less, that Balzac claimed; and

he forever won it for the novel." Thus does M. Brunetière crystallize his judgment on the 'Comédie humaine.' In his belief Balzac did not exaggerate in his life-studies—human nature is just as immoral, as coarse, as vulgar, as Balzac represented it; and he was no "romanticist," but a "naturalist," whose style, moreover, much abused by "stylists," was excellent for his purpose, so long as he did not "apply himself to write well." This last criticism will be accepted even by those who may demur to the rest. Every one familiar with Balzac can recall some of those deplorable patches which were meant to be purple, but somehow came out magenta. With Taine's saying that Balzac knew French "as well as any one can know it, only he used it in his own way," M. Brunetière does not entirely concur; but he holds that one of the reasons why Balzac's style has been condemned so strongly is that he "contributed more than any one towards deeply modifying the very idea of style; and this modification is not wholly sanctioned even yet." This is a defence not to be commended for common application. It could be made to justify "journalese." The critic is on firmer ground when he argues that Balzac's style was precisely what his work required.

Considered apart from their literary quality, the novels properly belonging to the 'Comédie' appear to M. Brunetière to be as veracious as they are vivid pictures of the period with which they are concerned—from the abolition of the Directory to the expulsion of the Bourbons. The general accuracy of Balzac's characterization, social and commercial, topographical and sartorial, is held for proven in these pages. As to the religion and politics of the novelist, M. Brunetière is surely right in regarding them as superficial, without much influence on his work.

When we come to specific judgments on particular novels M. Brunetière is inclined to be too arbitrary. He says, for instance: "It will be found, as a matter of fact, that Balzac wrote nothing superior to 'Cousin Pons' and 'Cousin Bette.'" It cannot possibly be so "found." The relative merit of works of art must always remain a matter of opinion or of taste. In dealing with the wit and humour of Balzac the author is again arbitrary. He asserts that as a wit Balzac is "downright intolerable," and he refers the reader "who may consider this expression too strong to the biography of Fritz Brünner in 'Cousin Pons,'" which he proceeds to quote. He seems to regard "wit" and "humour" as interchangeable terms, and in any case this way of proving a generalization with one or two selected examples is worse than leaving the generalization to stand alone. The humour of Balzac, moreover, lies chiefly in the presentation of scenes and characters and not in detachable phrases.

It is surprising to find such a critic as M. Brunetière confusing real persons with the creatures of fiction. He speaks of

"Madame de Manerville, to whom Balzac had been imprudent or conceited enough to send the manuscript of 'The Lily of the Valley.'" It was not Balzac the man, but Félix, the imaginary author of the novel, who (is supposed to have) sent the MS. to his mistress, Natalie de Manerville, herself a familiar character in the 'Comédie humaine.' This mistake, however, no more vitiates M. Brunetière's work than the poor examples of humour which he quotes vitiate Balzac's reputation for that quality. The book does not add much to our knowledge or understanding of the 'Human Comedy,' but it is of considerable value as a straightforward declaration, by a distinguished critic, of a profound belief—for the most part well reasoned—in the greatness of a novelist whose work has had more influence on modern fiction than that of any other writer. There is no need to disparage Balzac's contemporaries—as M. Brunetière, in the face of his expressed determination to the contrary, does in the case of Stendhal and of Mérimée—in order to recognize the general justice of the appreciation contained in this posthumous work.

As to the translation, it is impossible, without comparison with the original, to say how far its frequently wooden construction is American or French in origin. Nor are we convinced that some of the points to which we have taken exception may not be beyond cavil in the original French. The excessive number of notes of interrogation and admiration is presumably to be credited to the author, but the translator alone can be held responsible for rendering "Le Vicaire des Ardennes" by "The Vicar of Ardennes," and describing Madame Hanska as "the Alien," because she was the recipient of the 'Lettres à une Etrangère.'

English Local Government from the Revolution to the Municipal Corporations Act: the Parish and the County. By Sidney and Beatrice Webb. (Longmans & Co.)

It is characteristic of English ways that we owe this important work on the history of English local government, not to a professed historical student, but to the interest of one of the busiest of our municipal administrators. Desirous of analyzing the conditions of the practical problems of to-day, he

"found even the present Local Government so firmly rooted in the past, and the past so complicated and obscure, that it became indispensable to make a special study of the period immediately preceding the reforms of 1832-5"—

a period which lengthened out back to the Revolution. In his research Mr. Webb was aided not only by his wife, as joint author, but also by a number of workers more or less closely connected with the London School of Economics, an institution due in great measure to his initiative.

The book is the first of a series dealing with the whole range of the local governing bodies of England, and will be followed

by others describing Seigniorial Franchises, Municipal Corporations, and Statutory Authorities. It contains 607 pages of text, densely crowded with fact, yet arranged with consummate art, without a dull or an unnecessary one among them; and three full and complete indexes, occupying 58 pages more. The index of authors cited refers to over 1,500 quotations, and this bears a small proportion to those actually made from newspapers, local Acts, &c. Mr. Webb speaks modestly of "the mistakes of fact which we cannot fail to have made"; if there are many such, they must surely be due to the existence of unsuspected sources of information; while the references are exact, and are invariably given. Let us add that it would be difficult to detect any more personal political or social views in the treatment of an especially tempting subject than those of a keen administrator—an economist in the best sense.

The authors are dealing with two of the oldest institutions of our country—the parish, probably the oldest of them all, and the county, older than the monarchy of England. Each of them has, by the time the book opens, passed through nearly a thousand years of change and development. The churchwardens had been from time immemorial the officers of the parish, and its executive arm was the parish constable, though he was appointed by the manor or tithing, which roughly corresponded with it in most cases; but the overseers of the poor and the surveyor of the highways had been added to them with separate functions. The county, when it comes upon record, is governed by the Sheriff, the Vice-Comes, for the King; when we take it up it is headed by the Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum, the Sheriff and his court, the high constables, the coroners, and the justices of the peace. Thus fully constituted in Stuart times, the parish and the county were left at the Revolution, in charge of the local government of the country, "free from superior control, either by the national executive, Parliament, or the law courts," right down to the period of municipal reform.

It is no part of the authors' scheme to examine the reasons for this. Their deliberate avoidance of anything verging on a political question is shown by the fact that the word "Jacobite" occurs only once in the volume, in an unimportant connexion, though the Jacobites were the subject of endless communications between the executive and the local authorities for many years of the period. If we may venture to offer a suggestion in face of the immense industry this book reveals, the authors do not seem to have made much use of a most important source—the Privy Council Registers. Perhaps a study of them would not have afforded much information: the decay of the Privy Council as the Cabinet grew in power is one result of the Revolution the full consequences of which have not been realized. The Privy Council of the Tudors and the Stuarts knew and represented the social life of all England much more completely

than the few great families who governed the country from the Revolution to the Reform Bill. It was, during the earlier periods, in constant communication with the shires, and it was ably seconded by the judges, who in their visits to all parts of the country at the assizes supplied a constant stimulus to the execution of the laws. As the authors observe, one of the great difficulties of students is the tacit assumption that because a statute orders something to be done, it is therefore carried out. On the contrary, it generally happened that unless the law was enforced either by some public-spirited person or by the central authorities, it was neglected altogether, and it was a great part of the judge's duty in his charge to call the attention of the county to this neglect.

It must be owned that the need for interference by the central government was not so pressing during the early part of the Hanoverian period as it was either before or after. The Great Rebellion had struck a balance between the county families, and wiped out many of the local feuds existing since the Wars of the Roses; the population at the death of Anne was little greater than that of the England of a century before; and the country-sides had been cleared of their most troublesome inhabitants by the vigorous forced recruiting for the foreign wars of William III. and Marlborough. When social questions again pressed for settlement the attention of the governing families was absorbed by foreign politics, and internal development proceeded unchecked. Its history may be read in the book before us. In the parish the town meeting or vestry of all the inhabitants in Stuart times became, by a natural evolution, the close vestry of a few of the richer inhabitants, filling up vacancies by co-option, and this in its turn, with a virtually unlimited power of voluntary taxation, became a corrupt coterie. The authors show that every evil of government by a clique existed in some shape or another, and the plundered ratepayer had no means of self-protection. The few open vestries afforded sufficient examples of "government by public meeting" to discourage any attempt to revert to them, and one of them furnishes, long before America, a typical example of the rule of the "boss" in the dictatorship of Joseph Merceron over Bethnal Green, which the authors describe at some length. The withdrawal of poor relief and the poor rate from parochial government struck a death-blow to the parish, and the agitation against the church rate threw away the last semblance of its immemorial right to tax itself for any public object, and

"incidentally abandoned such public right as existed to the interesting and valuable public buildings which had, from the very beginnings of English history, served as the secular as well as the religious meeting-place of the parish."

The chapters on the parish touch rarely on the life of the past as preserved in our literature, and not on the present

at all. When we come to the county we find ourselves on more familiar ground. The county itself was a unit of "obligation," not of local self-government. For any failure to meet its obligations the county as a whole could be, and was, fined, and the fine could be levied on the goods of any inhabitant. What these obligations were may be read at length in our authors. The county had many rulers. The Lord Lieutenant, an exalted personage, interfered only by nominating the justices of the peace, though the Lord Chancellor had the power, and claimed it as a right and duty, to correct the lists of the Commission of the Peace by inserting names of desirable additions to the magistracy. In the county the list often tended to become very limited. Once, indeed, the authors record a strike of county magistrates caused by the appointment of one "who has been a grocer and is a Methodist"; and at the end of the period the county magistracy was—"with the exception of the members of the old Whig families of the governing classes, who could not decently have been kept out—exclusively Tory in politics," with such minor results as the refusal of county advertisements to Whig papers. The student of mediæval history finds, to his astonishment, the High Sheriff no longer a member of the great families of the county, but below the standing of a justice of the peace—a farmer, the son of a common carrier, a blacksmith, a footman, or a maltster. At the close of the eighteenth century the office again rises in status.

The main interest of this part of the book lies in the account of the justices of the peace, both town and country. We had marked numerous passages for quotation, but we refrain. The student of eighteenth-century fiction and drama will find here the basis on which many incidents in them are founded. The English rogue found justices of his own kidney. The county magistrates who insisted on an aristocratic qualification were almost justified by the behaviour of the justice of mean degree. Burke in 1780 is quoted: "The justices of Middlesex were generally the scum of the earth"; and they were clearly bad in the days of Dickens's youth. The "Trading Justice," "whose interest it is that virtue should be utterly banished from among us," to use the words of Swift; the "Mercenary Justice," who pocketed the fine of a shilling for every oath he heard, wherever or whenever it was; the justice who was but the mere mouthpiece of his clerk; the "Sycophant Justice," and the "Rural Tyrant" follow in a melancholy procession, and it is with unfeigned relief that we reach the beginnings of better things in the "Clerical Justice." He shows the brighter side of the picture, men of education and public spirit devoting themselves to the task of enforcing good government in their parishes and counties.

There is little to correct in the authors' work, and that only on minor

points. The exemption of the post letter-carriers from Parish Offices was neither common law nor statutory: it was granted by proclamation of James I., Charles I. and II., James II., William III., and Anne, to quote no others. Three justices were able to hand over to the recruiting officers in war time any able-bodied man who was unemployed, provided he were not a Parliamentary voter. A curious example of the powers of a grand jury is seen in their presenting May Fair as a nuisance, which had to be regulated by proclamation in April, 1709. In the case of the post-office officials quoted on p. 16 the Attorney-General protected them, because the drawing up of the proclamation which exempted them was part of the duties of his office. A number of small additions of this order could be noted, but it will be long before the authors are paid the compliment they desire, that of speedy supersession. We have hinted that no political or social moral is drawn from the facts collected, but the arrangement and presentation of facts form in themselves a criticism, and the whole book tends to enforce the necessity of publicity and a rigorous audit of accounts under any system of local government.

Sigismondo Pandolfo Malatesta, Lord of Rimini. By Edward Hutton. (Dent & Co.)

WITH English readers who have small leisure or inclination to wade through the wordy records of fifteenth and sixteenth century chroniclers, and to whom the work of M. Yriarte on Sigismondo Malatesta is unknown, a serious study of the most singular figure among Italian despots would have found a welcome. On the other hand, it is conceivable that a brilliant and interesting novel might have been written round that enigmatic personage. Mr. Hutton's volume—unhappily, we think—belongs neither to the category of the biography nor to that of the romance. It is a specimen of that literary hybrid, a story of fact masquerading as fiction. We are assured that it contains not a single statement for which authority cannot be found in the pages of Broglio, Battaglini, and their fellows, although the author has endeavoured, by putting his strictly veracious narrative into the mouth of an invented character, a scholar resident at the Court of Sigismondo and an eyewitness of the events recorded, to make that narrative "take on something of the vitality of fictitious things." That he should be successful in this attempt was hardly to be expected; and in fact his work—though by no means without merit—is as a whole unsatisfactory. We rise from its perusal with a sense of discomfort; it is impossible to dine at our ease off a dish which is neither fish, flesh, nor fowl, although it simulates in turn the qualities of all three. Alternately we are tantalized by our author's refusal, as historian, to go one step beyond his documents, and annoyed

by his airy readiness, as novelist, to brush aside a difficulty without making the slightest effort to clear it up. So careful is he to set down nothing for which he cannot, on demand, quote chapter and verse, that he deliberately forgoes the finest opportunities offered him by his subject—compressing, for instance, his account of the taking of Rocca Contrada into a couple of lines; while touching the truth or falsehood of certain famous accusations brought against the Malatesta, such as the charge of having poisoned his first wife, or that still more ghastly tale in which he appears as the brutal murderer of "the fair Ultramontane," he pronounces no judgment. Now, if Mr. Hutton were frankly writing fiction in the form of an historical novel, such reticence on his part might be condoned, and even commended; practised by one who prides himself on being above all things a faithful recorder of actual events, it produces in the reader a feeling of irritation. Such is the effect upon us of the form in which Mr. Hutton has chosen to present his life of Sigismondo.

It must be acknowledged that he handles that form with skill. The ambling movement of the Court annalist is ably imitated and, on the whole, consistently maintained; and if the recital of the Malatesta genealogy, and the marchings and counter-marchings of Piccinino, Sigismondo, and Federigo d'Urbino, do not make very lively reading, it was long ago acknowledged in the case of Jane Austen's Miss Bates, that the perfect presentation of the tiresome leads to a great risk of inflicting boredom on those who acknowledge the presenter's gift of draughtsmanship. When Mr. Hutton breaks away from his self-imposed models, as on rare occasions he does for a page or two, we get such admirable bits of writing as the story of Sigismondo's expedition in search of the ashes of Gemisthus Pletho, or the greater part of the chapter devoted to Leon Battista Alberti. But these are rare oases in the desert of a heavily pedestrian narrative of the wars of the Condottieri, and descriptions of Court pageants through which the figures of the principal actors—Sforza and Isotta, and even the tyrant of Rimini himself—move like shadows. We learn little of the motives and impulses which urge these people forward on their several paths of intrigue; we are as far from plucking out the heart of their mystery as old Sanseverino himself. He, the one "invention" of the work, is also the one thing perfectly living in it. His vindictive sketch of Æneas Sylvius Piccolomini as Pope is thoroughly in character; so is his telling—brief, simple, and unemphatic—of the tale of Paolo and Francesca, and his description of Pico della Mirandola, "who in his ever young and serene heart found room for Jesus beside Apollo." There are numerous little naive touches in keeping with the simplicity of the old scholar to whom the Lord of Rimini was a mingled source of joy and terror, pride and dismay, such as the comment on the rescue from the

general massacre of the Varani family of a single small child—"Giulio Cesare by name—and who knows what virtue lay therein?"—or the episode of Pandolfo, father of Sigismondo, who in time of peace, "wandering at large with his men, came to Monza, which he seized, and later took Brescia also.... thinking to secure something for himself. But he was unfortunate."

Perhaps the explanation of Sigismondo's character and deeds which he offers—an explanation both shrewd and plausible—seems rather his author's than his own. Yet the thinkers of that age were well aware that they stood at the parting of the ways, between two worlds, and to some of the philosophers who made sojourn in the Court of Rimini it may have occurred that the spirits of the old and the new did contend for mastery in the person of Isotta's lover—that strange combination of barbarism and culture, a fifteenth-century *condottiere* with the passion of a Berker for the fight, who turned from the perpetration of crimes of pure savagery to delight in the medallions of Vittore Pisano.

Mr. Hutton's style seems to have undergone of late a chastening process. Though he still shows an occasional tendency to violence and preciousness of epithet, and now and then permits a facile pen to lead him into a thicket of words from which it is difficult to disentangle his meaning, such lapses are becoming rare with him. Where he allows himself to forget the fifteenth-century chroniclers and rises to a higher level, he is often happy; and if his eloquence sometimes reminds us rather forcibly of 'Gaston de Latour,' this is, at least, evidence that he has been studying in a good school. We have noted few errors, of fact or typography; but where so much care has in general been shown for accuracy, it seems a pity that the Coward Malatesta of Pesaro should be called Galeotto and Galeazzo with persistent impartiality.

SHORT STORIES.

His People. By R. B. Cunninghame Graham. (Duckworth.)—Mr. Cunninghame Graham is perverse in his literary art. He understands the writer's craft well, yet he condescends in the present volume to at least one short story in which every sentence, with few exceptions, would seem as blank verse. For the critical reader he has thus deliberately destroyed the merit of an otherwise charming little sketch, 'A Botanist.' This particular story, by the way, is in itself a flat contradiction of the author's preface, in which he ridicules the average writer for writing, not what he sees, but what he imagines, and claims that he himself gives us only what he has seen, being, in the process, "torn and twisted, as with a thousand devils struggling to be free." But those who already know the author will not be altogether repelled by his aggressive whimsicality, his tilting at all things and institutions which are recognized and accepted. One can brush all this aside, and, though at the price of irritation, enjoy some delightfully vivid pieces of description,

some true and daring study of character, in these eighteen short stories or sketches. The reader should endeavour to accept at the outset the author's peculiar point of view, and make allowance for it. Had Fate made of him a South American rancher, his stories would probably have idealized everything English, even as now he ridicules most homely matters, and idealizes the wilder side of life in such countries as the Argentine Republic. He excels in the presentation of the picturesque.

The Modern Way. By Mrs. W. K. Clifford. (Chapman & Hall.)—In this collection of short stories, reprinted from various periodicals, the best known is probably that entitled 'The Bread-Snatchers,' an essay on the ethics of wage-earning by women already in easy circumstances. It is entirely temperate and rational in tone, but seems to us to ignore one crucial factor in the problem—the anomalous position of many girls who, while living idle lives in luxurious homes, have scarcely any money for their own spending, and at best a bare pittance to look forward to in old age. In 'The Heart of the Wood' we trace something of that vivid and rather lurid power which distinguished 'Aunt Anne' and 'Mrs. Keith's Crime.' The remaining stories are all well written, and have a certain interest and originality, but are scarcely notable.

The Realist. By E. Temple Thurston (Sisley.)—The title of Mr. Thurston's book, though it properly belongs to the first story, fairly describes its other contents: they are studies in a realism which is not afraid of consequences, and which defies conventionality. They are interesting experiments, but one at least is calculated to shock readers by its violence and its crudity. The best is the last, which tells of the vengeance of a low comedian in a plain, untheatrical, and effective way. Mr. Thurston shows but a vague sense of the humorous side of life, and he will never write a representative novel, clever as he is, until he cultivates such appreciation.

A Voyage of Discovery. By Guy Fleming. (John Lane.)—Of the three stories included in this volume the last, 'The Hero of Horn-dean,' is the best. It has more of a plot, more atmosphere, and more point than the others. Truth to say, that is not claiming a great deal, for Mr. Fleming has a way of wandering somewhat aimlessly over his canvas, without producing much effect. He cultivates the leisured manner to the point of weariness. There is not sufficient humour or incident, or even character, in 'A Voyage of Discovery' to redeem it from dullness. Possibly the author could do better in a full-dress novel, but we have doubts.

Love in London. By A. St. John Adcock (Griffiths), consists of four - and - twenty stories of London life, and the level of interest they reach is certainly high. Yet not one among them is really remarkable; none has distinction. They suggest that the author ought to be capable of something better, which should have the indefinable touch about it, the thing that makes fiction live. There is, indeed, abundant promise in these telling little pictures of bypaths in London and out-of-the-way characters, and the author shows both craftsmanship and versatility.

Charles Edward. By Harrison Rhodes. (Ward & Lock.)—This book is best treated under the heading 'Short Stories,' of which, indeed, with a connecting thread, it is made up. It is transatlantic both in its Gibsonian illustrations and its piquant humour, which we should have liked better had there been less of it—its qualities, refreshing when

taken in small doses, become enervating in bulk; but for the busy man, who takes his literary refreshment homœopathically, 'Charles Edward' may be recommended.

MEMOIRS AND LETTERS.

MESSRS. HUTCHINSON & Co. publish a book on W. E. Johnston, an American medical man, who long practised in Paris, and acted as correspondent of *The New York Times*. It is edited, in two volumes, by his son, and has for title *Memoirs of "Malakoff,"* best-known of Johnston's signatures. The book deals chiefly with events between 1852 and 1863, and needs foot-notes more detailed than those given. Little attempt is made in text or index to follow in the present day persons named in youth who are still living. All the duels of the Marquis de Gallifet are described, as well as several of his many wounds; but the reader is scarcely reminded of the heroic episodes in the romantic life of the veteran who still takes keen interest in the affairs of armies and of society. Minna, Marchioness of Anglesey, is described and indexed only as "Miss Minnie King, of Georgia," figuring, on the invitation of the Empress, as Undine at the famous private costume-ball, at which the four hundred ladies were chosen for beauty and taste in dress. It "was the last occasion on which Madame de Castiglione appeared at the Tuileries." A future Under-Secretary of State of the Republic it was, we believe, who, with blackened face, acted as her slave, and bore over her almost naked charms an immense umbrella. The "Casimir-Périer" named in text and index should have been explained to be the minister of Thiers and father of the President, as there have been three well-known statesmen of the name (written without the accent) in the time of men now living.

A second edition of that delightful book *Memoirs of a Revolutionist*, by Prince Peter Kropotkin, now published by Messrs. Sonnenschein & Co. in one volume, contains a new preface by the author on recent events in Russia, and also a preface by Dr. George Brandes. Neither is remarkable. The book itself is by no means forgotten, and will never be out of date.

Mr. Murray publishes *Moltke in his Home*, translated by Mrs. Charles Edward Barrett-Lennard from the original by F. A. Dressler. The book is non-military, and chiefly musical. The introduction by Lord Methuen is based on a double friendship of the fiddle, for Dressler played for the Prussian marshal and taught the British general. The book will interest musicians, and also admirers of quiet family life.

Mr. T. H. S. Escott has got together some of his best gossip for the general reader in an entertaining volume, *Society in the Country House*, published by Mr. Fisher Unwin. The dedicatory preface explains why the book deals chiefly with the south of England, and omits such houses as Hardwicke Hall—though Chatsworth, indeed, is named. In the south of England, however, Ham House, Stourhead, Farnham Castle, Grays, Loseley, and Eastwell are among important houses having both historic interest and Sunday associations of Mr. Escott's time. These are not among those selected by our author. He tells us, however, that to a considerable extent "the country houses mentioned are confined to those with which" he is "personally acquainted." Some of the anecdotes have literary interest. It was pointed out in *Notes*

and *Queries* many years ago that Disraeli's "range of exhausted volcanoes" came from Wilkes. Wilkes, Mason, and other writers of the "Junius" set were often laid under contribution by Disraeli, who had, moreover, imitated their style in his early squibs. We cannot agree with Mr. Escott that the case of the volcanoes was "only an undesigned coincidence," but we of course accept, so far as he is concerned, the statement which follows:—

"The present writer, mentioning the words of Wilkes to Lord Beaconsfield, was told, 'Thanks, it looks like a crib, but it is the first time I knew Wilkes ever said anything worth repeating and fit for publication.'"

The Athenæum possesses evidence that Disraeli the younger agreed with *The Athenæum*, and differed from his father and from Lord Stanhope, concerning the character of Wilkes. Disraeli sided with us in the controversy that opened with our article of January 3rd, 1852, and closed in the pages of *Notes and Queries* in 1857. Disraeli, at that time, recognized the importance of *The North Briton*, and also accepted the view that Wilkes was not the writer of 'The Essay on Woman.'

Some of Mr. Escott's anecdotes have to be spoilt in order not to be called "offensive." That of the second Duke of Wellington's description of misery (at p. 381) cannot yet be told as "old Alfred" used to tell it—unless certain families were represented among the auditors. It did not end "and yet I am happy!"

Of Mr. Escott's historical references we note the similarity of the position of Ken, Bishop of Bath and Wells, at Longleat, as described by him, to that of the Cardinal-Archbishop of Paris, now residing in the home of M. Cochin. Some of the history is a little weak. No wonder! The labour of verification in the case of so portentous a list of names and houses may be judged by reference to the index—as feeble, alas! as the index is in almost every book. Take Granville and Grenville, for example. The index has no Grenville. At p. 258 we are told that the "name was indifferently spelt Granville or Grenville," which is true; but this is prefaced by a confusion of the eighteenth-century and of the nineteenth-century Granvilles. The first reference under "Lord Granville" is to "Lord Grenville" as leader of the Grenville Whigs. Of the sixteen references to "Lord Granville" which are traceable from the index, three concern Grenvilles—sons of R. Grenville and brothers of Lord Temple, of George Grenville, and of Pitt's wife; while twelve indicate the father of the present Lord Granville—Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and for the Colonies, and Lord President of the Council; and one means his father, the ambassador. Of the three "Lady Granvilles" of the index, one is the seventeenth-century Lady Carteret, and two are the well-known and respected Lady still with us. Of seven "The Granvilles," three are Carteret-Granvilles, three are (Pitt-Temple-) Grenvilles, and one means the Lord and Lady of 1865-91. The "Lords Derby" of the index are also worth a word of more general comment. Families who insist on having a succession of great or notorious men ought to make a change of title, as is done in France and Germany. In Lancashire the people distinguish thus: "the cock-fighting Lord," "the Prime Minister Lord," and so forth. Literary society is kept straight by the epigram of Thorold Rogers on the Prime Minister. The index-maker has taken some pains, following Mr. Escott, who has put in numbers. But, as Thorold Rogers wrote,

Geoffrey, fourteenth Earl of Derby, died

—in 1869, and it would have been easy for the index-maker, with this fact before him, to sort most of the nine unnumbered references among the ten that were numbered in the text.

We hope that Mr. Escott's future volumes of pleasant reminiscences may have the advantage of a "checker" who will do the drudgery and the index, and leave the writer free to please us without calling down the cantankerous critic. This would avoid little slips such as "Prince of TourandTexas," or that by which Étretat fails to be recognized as a place. Repetitions would also be avoided. There are, for example, two admirable descriptions of Sir Louis Mallet, but only one of these is indexed, because the index-maker has found a slight difference in the Christian name, derived from the great Swiss-French ancestor of the family. We think that the host of Bright (and Cobden) at Shepperton (Manor House) was Mr. Lindsay, M.P., the shipowner, and not "Sir Coutts." We again congratulate Mr. Escott on the interest of his book, and renew the expression of our wish "for more."

The author of 'Pages from a Private Diary' shows once again the ease and charm of a cultivated pen in *Provincial Letters*, and other *Papers* (Smith & Elder). His latest book is not equal to his first in good stories, and occasionally rather trite in its subject, as when it deals with Shakspeare and the Cotswolds—subjects which have been frequently of late before the book-loving public. Further, there are two solid essays—one on Atterbury, and another on 'English Patriotic Poetry'—which are hardly in tune with the light and happy vein of the diarist. We should have preferred to see these essays and two others 'On Two Poets and their Critics' kept for a later volume, devoted entirely to criticism. The book concludes with 'Notes by an Examiner in English Literature,' which deal largely with the unconscious humour and blunders of examinees. Here again we feel somewhat jaded by the perpetual exhibition of blunders of the sort which has preceded. If a mistake is at all amusing, it has been already printed in ten daily papers at least, which copy one another without remorse or acknowledgment. What Canon Beeching says about the examination papers is valuable and needs saying, but some of the results were hardly worth the dignity of print. The quotation from Plato which introduces this article is not new in this connexion, and does not attain to strict accuracy.

The 'Provincial Letters' will be enjoyed by all who read them. They offer a skilful admixture of description (touched often with a mocking humour) and generalization, which the author confesses to be his foible, and with which he makes pretty play, being a student of humanity as well as a man of letters. He discovers that of eight of our famous admirals celebrated by Mr. Newbolt only one was "cradled within sound of sea." The sort of sentiment which a man has about the village of his youth is admirably described. We are glad to see Tennyson's 'Defence of Lucknow' praised, but we read with surprise that "it is not improbable that the 'Barrack-Room Ballads' will remain Mr. Kipling's most permanent contribution to Victorian literature." We do not think it at all likely: for such a verdict ignores Mr. Kipling's pre-eminent claims as a writer of short stories. The rebuke of the feeble stuff which passes for patriotic poetry in music-halls and other popular resorts is certainly timely and well deserved.

Messrs. Routledge, the publishers of two volumes of *Letters of Literary Men* in their new "London Library," inform the world how many years the editor, Mr. F. A. Mumby, has taken over his work. We cannot say that such revelations seem to us necessary or desirable, though it is considered a great merit in a novelist now not to trouble the publisher or writer of puffing paragraphs for ten months or so. In this case Mr. Mumby might have left his work to responsible critics, without suggesting that it was thorough and painstaking. It is both, and the volumes afford some of the most interesting reading which we have come across of late. The editor's short notes by way of introduction are capable, and his taste in selection, on the whole, admirable. It would have been well to give the source of the classical quotations which occur here and there. They are not translated, though twelve words of Carlyle's German are. Owners of copyrights have been generous, so that the later volume, 'The Nineteenth Century,' is representative as well as the earlier, 'Sir Thomas More to Robert Burns.' Good letters will be found not only from famous persons, but also from lesser lights, like Bishop Hall. We are pleased to see Shelley's beautiful letter on the Baths of Caracalla, and Keats's still more beautiful letter to Reynolds (May 3rd, 1818), which has a passage worthy of Plato concerning human life as "a large Mansion of many Apartments." We have noticed a few trifling misprints in proper names and elsewhere; but nothing which militates seriously against the enjoyment of the volumes.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MR. JOHN MURRAY publishes, and Mr. Lucien Wolf introduces, *The Russian Government and the Massacres*. This is a translation of a volume by M. Sémenoff, of Paris, described by us (September 15th last) as an account of the Pogroms, or organized attacks on Jews, which disgrace the recent history of Russia. We wish we could believe with Mr. Wolf that the "eventual triumph" of "the Russian people.... is as certain as that the day succeeds the night." The European public has shown a general indignation at such governmental barbarities as the shooting of two young girls by a military firing-party, along with soldiers found guilty of mutiny. The newspapers tell us that the crime of the girls thus put to death—at Cronstadt, close to the capital and to the Emperor's palaces—was the distribution of Socialist literature; while they rack our nerves by details of the bungling brutality which caused one of the women to die by inches. Such horrors may possibly be stopped. The Pogroms are attributed by Mr. Lucien Wolf, a well-known and responsible writer, to direct Governmental action. They were, however, carried out by the assistance of local mobs, animated by interested prejudice, if not by superstition. The story of Roumania shows that such violence may continue, although general government be improved. We do not expect any such reform in Russia as will make organized robbery and murder of Jews, as such, impossible. Mr. Lucien Wolf goes on to give us all a castigation no doubt deserved:—

"Abominable as has been the conduct of the Russian Government, I cannot help thinking that the saddest feature in this tragic story is, after all, the attitude of the Governments of Western Europe. They are to a great extent participants in the terrible responsibility which has been traced so convincingly to the unscrupulous advisers of the

Tsar. But for their complaisance the 'pogroms' never could have continued so persistently, and certainly never could have developed into the infamous form they have most recently assumed—openly managed and prosecuted by the uniformed servants of the State."

France, Mr. Wolf explains, has her investments, and we our "Agreement" to ease us from pressure in our Persian interests:—

"Small wonder that the 'pogromists' laugh at Europe, and now pursue their work without intermission or disguise! But here the victims are not only Russian Jews, or even Russian Liberals and Revolutionists. The whole moral consciousness of the free nations of the West—and not least of England herself—is being degraded by this officially nurtured apathy."

Mr. Wolf then shows the evidence against the Russian Government in respect of Pogroms to be stronger than that against the Sultan in the case of the Armenian massacres.

A curious reference in the text "to the reasons which caused the Earl of Portsmouth's resignation" is left without explanation by the translator. It is possible that M. de Witte, the negotiator of the Treaty of Portsmouth, has received the title as a cant name.

MR. JOHN MURRAY also publishes *Before Port Arthur in a Destroyer*, a translation from the Spanish by Capt. R. Grant, D.S.O. Capt. Grant tells us in the preface, to that which we regard as an imaginative "book for boys," that a Spanish officer describes the volume as having been translated by him from the Japanese. Capt. Grant frankly adds:—

"I have no knowledge of the Japanese language, nor have I seen the Japanese original.... In the circumstances it is impossible for me to hold myself responsible for the circumstantial accuracy of the narrative."

Capt. Grant assumes, however, that there exists an original in Japanese by Hesibo Tikovara, Commander of the Osiva. The book does not read like a naval officer's diary of operations in which he took the part described, so that we cannot extend to naval students our recommendation of the volume, readable as is the spirited narrative of war.

MR. J. A. DOYLE's great work on the Colonies improves by his delays. In reviewing his first volume (March 24th, 1883) we expressed doubts as to his method. In our notice of his second and third volumes (July 2nd, 1887) we said of them that they were more carefully executed and better written. The volumes now published by Messrs. Longman, under the same general title *The English in America*, are *The Middle Colonies* and *The Colonies under the House of Hanover*. The former is at least as good as the best of its predecessors, and the latter has conspicuous merit. In the Hanover volume the chapter on 'The Colonization of Georgia' forms a contribution to political philosophy not easily to be matched. The style is uneven, but sometimes noble. A controversy in *Vanity Fair* on the names of "the ten greatest Englishmen" produced last week a complaint of the omission of "Oglethorpe, the founder of Georgia." Mr. Doyle's first four pages on James Oglethorpe are of high eloquence. His

"figure.... seems to stand out among the corrupt and place-hunting officials of the Hanoverian age, like Max Piccolomini among the intriguers of Wallenstein's camp. Yet Oglethorpe did not so much rise above his age, as reflect a side of it which is often overlaid by its more striking or more obvious characteristics.... We.... are blind to the better aspects of that century.... the age of Addison and Horace Walpole, it was in a far more abiding sense the age of Chatham and Wolfe and Clive.... In one respect, however, Oglethorpe....

did rise above his age. It is hardly an exaggeration to call him the founder of modern philanthropy."

The earlier volume deals with "New Netherlands,"—Hudson, the Englishman who served the Dutch; Peter Stuyvesant, whose representatives (lineal descendants in the male line) play an admirable part in the present life of New York—as well as with the swamping of the Dutch of New Amsterdam by British and Huguenot immigration. Next come Frontenac, the Mohawks, and the French army. Then we hark back to Penn, next door. The volume contains much that is of interest and value in relation to the part played by Calvinistic and other theology in the disunion of the English element in America, and in the hostile relations of New England and New York.

Our author, in 'The Colonies under the House of Hanover,' before dealing with the two successful sieges of Louisburg by joint colonial and British forces, says:—

"It will be well.....to sum up.....earlier incidents in colonial history where the colonists took a part in the military operations conducted by the mother country.....In every instance where the American colonists acted in conjunction with British troops there was disastrous and discreditable failure, failure which beyond question was largely due to the incompetence of British commanders."

No doubt the colonial share in Cromwell's expeditions was chiefly that of the islands, while Mr. Doyle is thinking of "the mismanaged and fruitless attack on Canada in 1711" and of "the ill-conceived and ill-executed attack on the Spanish West Indies in 1740." Massachusetts was always ready to send large forces, and often did so. The other colonies were backward in similar action, and the difficulties of co-operation may be judged from the despatches of later governors published in the 'Correspondence of William Pitt,' reviewed by us on December 22nd last. One result of the Carthagena expedition is chronicled by our author:—

"Among the volunteers from Virginia was Lawrence, the elder brother of George Washington. He apparently enjoyed the friendship and confidence of Admiral Vernon. Of the countless pilgrims who visit the home of the first President, probably but a few know that its name commemorates that boastful and self-asserting sailor."

To the first capture of Louisburg Massachusetts sent 3,250 men, out of a population of about 100,000. The author is more partial towards the American colonists than is the American publication just now named, but the provincial record of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the personal record of George Washington, in connexion with British and American wars against the French, are glorious. Even the future President's surrender to the French was creditable to himself.

We note a few other points of interest.

"By 1750 English had become the dominant language in the city of New York, but Dutch still held its own in the outlying districts."

In the adjoining Pennsylvania, described by us as "next door," the German settlers were styled "Dutch"—as they called themselves. The New York "Dutch" of eighteenth-century colonial history are no longer in America included by English-speaking Americans as "Dutch," and American usage corresponds to European practice in this point, where we British differ.

Franklin's "scheme of confederation" has frequently been republished in recent years, and is so familiar that it was not necessary to give space to its details. Mr. Doyle names as a defect "the total absence of any coercive machinery." The difficulty of Federal coercion is illustrated by the

Swiss religious civil war, by the Confederacy, and by the present controversy between the President and Cabinet of the United States and the State of California.

Mr. Deakin's remark to Lord Salisbury,— "that would have been an excellent speech—from a French Prime Minister," is not forgotten by his admirers. Dinwiddie was a precursor of the spokesman of Victoria, now Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia: "His letter and arguments would have been more proper from a French officer than from one of His Majesty's Governors." We end our notice of this valuable volume by asking if "Destournel," to whom fell the command of the French fleet intended for the conquest of New England in 1747, and who "was for abandoning the expedition," was an ancestor of the French "Pacifist" Senator, Baron d'Estournelles, the grand-nephew and representative of Madame de Staël's B. Constant. Destournel stabbed himself because his officers outvoted him in a council of war,—a reversal of the proverb "Councils of war never fight." Pestilence, however, paralyzed the French fleet.

Mr. Doyle's work compares favourably with the new French volume of Prof. Schefer in which are discussed many of the same "Colonial Problems."

Under the Absolute Amir is the title of Mr. F. Martin's description of the second part of his life at Kabul as the chief engineer of the Afghan Government. The publishers are Messrs. Harper & Brothers. The other well-known European residents, such as Miss Hamilton, Capt. Griesbach, and Sir Salter Pyne, are as a rule not named, and the author's opinion of his masters is less favourable, or more frank, than those—coming from the earlier medical adviser, geologist, and engineer—which have hitherto been published or privately seen. The book now before us is interesting, if indiscreet. Mr. Martin reveals the causes of the anger of the late Amir against the Calcutta Foreign Office, and the Political and Secret Department of the India Office, of which hints have been given in *The Athenæum*. The refusal to allow an Afghan legation at our Court, while the less powerful and independent Persia was represented by a Minister, and the Garter given to the Shah, were the chief causes of the Amir's displeasure. His fear of Ayub Khan, the unwelcome prince who beat us at Maiwand, gave rise to a grievance of a more foolish kind, owing to our refusal to remove this pretender, whom we maintain, to a residence more distant from the frontier than Rawul Pindi. A large part of Mr. Martin's volume is filled with accounts of the horrible cruelty of the present and the late Amir. Habibullah, now our guest in India, figures as the direct author of a fiendish crime against a poor woman and her unborn child, in a paragraph which begins, mildly, with these words: "The present Amir is very scrupulous about all things surrounding him being kept clean and tidy." "The Amir"—present or late not specified—murders, in another anecdote, his own postman, laying the blame upon "the tribes," in order to get possession of a dispatch to Calcutta from our native Agent at his Court. We discover, however, that it contained "nothing....that could reflect upon his integrity." Mr. Martin suggests that the late Amir poisoned Ghulam Hyder, which is possible, as that Afghan commander-in-chief was a friend of Lord Roberts. Some of the tortures said to be commonly ordered by the Amir in person are beyond description in our columns.

Mr. Martin's equipment for general ac-

counts of men and things is defective, as is often the case with those who know one place well. The "running" pace of horse travel—our old English amble—is named as though peculiar, but is still normal from Mogador to Delhi. The use as sewers, in parts of their long course, of open conduits intended to carry pure drinking water to favoured towns affects at least one famous health resort of the French Riviera. The electric properties of the dry climate, causing crackling in clothes and hair, are as marked in the inland parts of North and South Africa, of Australia, and even of America, as in Central Asia. The effect of atmosphere upon vision described by Mr. Martin is the same at Denver and on the Veldt. Our own Sikh infantry treat their beards in the fashion described as specially Afghan. We are presented, in respect of the Afghans, with a repetition of the crude opinion of those who are unacquainted with the history and art of Nineveh and other great countries ruled by what we are pleased to call the Semitic races: "One is inclined to think that if they are not the Lost Tribes, they must be of Jewish origin." The primitive Arians of Kaffristan, now crushed by the Anglo-Afghan policy, and enslaved by their Moslem persecutors, become, in similar fashion, "descendants of the garrisons Alexander the Great left....the Kafir have a language of their own, which....might form an interesting study for those who are acquainted with the old Greek language." That "men in Afghanistan are not prone to talk about their wives" is but the general usage of the Mohammedan world, and of a large portion of the non-Mohammedan East. The practice of "carrying guns, which they fire as they go along" at weddings, was once all-but universal, and is still kept up in Albania, in Servia, in Montenegro, in parts of Latin America, and in negro kingdoms in the heart of Africa.

Mr. Martin says: "The Afghans are not great travellers." He is doubtless right on such a matter; but when we consider the sparse population, the little wealth, and the strong reasons for not making known what money may exist in private hands, the number of Afghans who go yearly to Delhi to "shop" is noticeable. The ornamented shields which the Afghan chiefs and their retainers carry are all of Indian manufacture, and are mostly bought in India by their possessors, and not imported by way of commerce.

THE MARQUIS DE RUVIGNY displays once more, in the third, or Anne of Exeter, volume of *The Plantagenet Roll of the Blood Royal* (T. C. & E. C. Jack), that patient industry which has now won for him general recognition of the real value of his work. He gives of it a modest account in his preface. The intention of the author is probably to produce in due time as complete a view as is possible of the legitimate descents from English kings; but it is easier to deal with the descents from Edward III. than it will be to cover the whole field. Bastardy was common among the Norman dukes, and early Norman history in England is not trustworthy. Of days before the regular visitations of the heralds there is much ill-founded family tradition. Even the visitations omit the less distinguished members of large households, and have to be checked by the inquisitions or inquests into property at death, and by wills, and these are often wanting. It is, moreover, pleasant to know that one is sprung from the Conqueror by direct legitimate descent, but doubts as to such pedigrees rise to the mind when it is discovered that Thor and Woden and other Norse gods come into them. Like the

Emperor of Japan, we are the representatives of the Dead Gods, and almost on a par with our Indian feudatories, who stand in a similar position to the sun and moon—though, in the case of the Mahrattas, it is often only by adoption. As a typical example of difficulties, let us take the Le Despençers, a family named by the Marquis de Ruigny. We used to read in guide-books, and even in family pedigrees, of "Hugh Le Despençer the Elder" and "Hugh Le Despençer the Younger," and no others. Between these two were sorted all the acts, and all the great descents of any and every "Hugh Le Despençer." Then were discovered the four Hugh Le Despençers of the 'Dictionary of National Biography' and of the peerages. There probably were five. No inquirer can feel satisfied that we know the facts about the Clares and their successors, while the Despençer tombs in Tewkesbury Abbey are "wrong." Yet the Clare quarterings play a considerable part in heraldry. Among the interesting people who figure in the present volume, as being undoubtedly descended from Alfred and Charlemagne, and the Conqueror, and St. Louis, are Brian Fairfax and his sister, wife to the brother of George Washington, the Virginia Lees, Dr. Pusey, and Miss Rhoda Broughton. We congratulate the Marquis de Ruigny on the progress of his work. There has been some confusion about its price. It costs four guineas, not three.

MR. GAYLORD WILSHIRE, a well-known American Socialist, publishes through the Wilshire Book Company of New York *Wilshire Editorials*. He has not the equipment or the style of M. Jaurès, but he has a fine Californian eye for titles fit to make "head-lines." Thus we have an obvious key to an article in 'Why save Men's Souls?' except, indeed, in this old country at this particular moment, when it may suggest to "suffragettes" that women's souls are to continue to be affected by the Redemption. We are disappointed in failing to find 'Effect of Socialism on the Earthquake,' as a pendant to 'Effect of the Earthquake on Socialism.' The opening lines, however, of the latter essay are good: "The earthquake in California, by the destruction of some hundreds of millions of dollars of property, will help enormously toward continuing 'prosperity.'" An impartial critic must admit that the Socialists knock about Ricardo with much effect. It is still more easy, he feels, to knock about their Marx; but then they are beginning to find out this truth, and to shelve their pontiff. 'Disadvantage of not being a Princess' is a "topical" leader on the late Miss Alice Roosevelt—subject in some countries to the drawback that they still think she is one. *The Athenæum* notes its agreement with the author in the doctrine summarized in 'Impossibility of a Russian Social Revolution,' and selects an extract to show the style of a school to which we owe another American Socialist writer blessed with a name suggestive of an English county—Jack London:—

"We universally excuse a man for drugging himself when he is about to undergo a surgical operation. If whiskey could be used instead of ether for the anæsthetic, who would blame a man for drinking it when his leg had to be sawed off? After the operation, for weeks the man may be in pain. We do not frown upon his taking opium. But let him recover from the physical pain, and then take opium or whiskey to rid himself of a spiritual pain, and we at once view him with scorn, notwithstanding that we all say the pain of the mind is greater than that of the body. It is natural for man to escape pain, and if he cannot escape the pain itself he will do the next best

thing—deadening himself to the sensation. A healthy man in a natural, healthy environment will....not wish to lose any of his sensations—any of his life.You could not think of a man wishing to get drunk in heaven. It is an absurdity. Yet, if a man happened to have gone to hell, what man would blame the poor devil for getting as drunk as he could and staying that way."

MESSRS. CASSELL publish with the well-known illustrations of Doré, and a brief introduction by Mr. Teignmouth Shore, *Don Quixote* in two volumes. The text is that of Jarvis, with occasional corrections from Motteux. The volumes, which are nearly 13 inches by 10, are of considerable weight, but we can commend them as a solid addition to the libraries of those who want attractive editions of the classics of the world. Cervantes is for old and young alike, and Doré's full-page illustrations, which require a big scale for their true effect, make the most of the grotesque side of the great romance.

The House, the Garden, and the Steeple is a collection of old mottoes made and published by Mr. A. L. Humphreys. The little book is as charming in its old-world contents as it is in its get-up. We commend it to all in search of suitable mottoes, especially as modern inventions in that way are usually feeble, if not inaccurate. Here are things quaint in the original sense, homely and yet becoming.

The Literary Year-Book for 1907 (Routledge) has cast aside such useless embellishments as the photographs of authors, and now is a thoroughly businesslike and satisfactory guide. It leads off with an 'Authors' Directory' which is full and laudably accurate; and it affords abundant information about copyright of various kinds, the addresses and needs of editors and publishers, libraries, and booksellers both in town and country. At the end is an elaborate 'Bibliography of George Meredith,' compiled by Mr. A. J. K. Esdaile. We think it a pity that the author of it should have done independently work that has already been done for the most part by Mr. Lane, whose admirable bibliography ought to be well known. Mr. Esdaile acknowledges that "I have collected very little that Mr. Lane did not gather before me." The Second Part of the Bibliography, relating to articles, book-chapters, &c., on the great novelist, is not of high value for reference.

THE Almanach Hachette, which we receive rather later than usual, combines gaiety and instruction in a way which English annuals do not attempt. Thus we find on two adjoining pages recipes for cooking eggs and an entertaining series of animal studies by M. Rabier. There are several very useful summaries, arranged under "Année agricole," "musicale," "musulmane," "théâtrale," &c. The index might be larger. It should be the pre-eminent feature in all books crowded, like this, with various topics.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

- Ball (T. L.), *A Pastoral Bishop*, 6/6 net. A memoir of A. Chinnery Haldane, sometime Bishop of Argyll and the Isles. With 3 Portraits.
Beresford-Cooke (E.), *The Sign of the Cross in the Western Liturgies*, 1/6. Published with the idea of making the use and purpose of this gesture intelligible to those who have not given the subject much attention.
Book of the Charges of the Right Rev. A. Chinnery Haldane, edited by Eleanor C. Gregory.
Brooks (Phillips) *The Influence of Jesus*, 2/6 net. The Bohlen Lectures.
Church Quarterly Review, January, 6/
Conybeare (F. C.), *The Armenian Version of Revelation*, 21/ net. Edited from the oldest MSS.
Deane (A.), *Friends and Fellow Labourers of St. Paul*, 1/6

Fourfold Portrait of the Heavenly King as presented in the Gospels, by Interpreter. A new translation of the Gospels side by side with the Authorized and Revised Versions, quotations from the Old Testament, and parallel passages arranged to facilitate comparison of the Gospel narratives.

- Hancock (T.), *The Peculium*, 5/. Second Edition, revised with an Introduction by W. E. Collins. An endeavour to throw light on some of the causes of the decline of the Society of Friends, especially in regard to its original claim of being the Peculiar People of God.
Hutton (W. H.), *The Reformation in Europe*, 2d. A paper read before the lecturers of the Church Historical Society, at Fulham Palace, on February 15th, 1906.
Inge (W. R.), *Personal Idealism and Mysticism*, 3/6 net.
The Paddock Lectures for 1906, delivered in New York.
Jacquier (E.), *History of the Books of the New Testament*, Authorized Translation, by Rev. J. Duggan; Vol. I. St. Paul and his Epistles, 7/6.
Knight (H. J. C.), *The Temptation of our Lord, considered as related to the Ministry and as a Revelation of His Person*, 4/6 net. The Hulsean Lectures, 1905-6.
Slattery (C. L.), *The Master of the World: a Study of Christ*, 5/ net.
Souter (A.), *The Commentary of Pelagius on the Epistles of Paul*, 1/6 net. A learned paper from the Proceedings of the British Academy.

Law.

- How to Avoid Payment of Debt, by a Solicitor, 1/ net. It has been intimated in Parliament that imprisonment for debt is to be abolished. The object of this cheap edition is to avert the threatened interference with creditors' powers.
Lehane (C.) and Moles (J.), *Treatise on Town Tenants (Ireland) Act, 1906*, 2/ net. With text, analysis, and annotations.
Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, with Explanatory Notes and Index by W. Ellis Hill, 3/6 net.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

- Calvert (A. F.), *The Alhambra*, Second Edition, 42/ net. For former review see *Athen.*, May 5th, 1906.
Campbell (Lord Archibald), *Argyllshire Gallies*, 3/6. Typical specimens are given to show the great variety of Argyllshire gallies.
Cust (Lionel), *Van Dyck*, 5/ net. This condensed version of Mr. Lionel Cust's work, published in 1900, has been prepared for the series of Great Masters in Painting and Sculpture.
Jamaica, painted by A. S. Forrest, described by J. Henderson, 6/ net.
Palace of Peace at the Hague, Part I., 10/6 net. The 6 "premiated" and 40 other designs chosen by the Society of Architecture at Amsterdam, and reproduced under its direction.
Reinach (S.), *Apollo*, 6/ net. An illustrated manual of the history of art.
Renouf (Sir P. Le Page), *Life Work: Vol. IV., The Book of the Dead, Translation and Commentary*, 25/ net. Completed by Prof. E. Naville. Biography of Sir P. Le Page Renouf.

Poetry and Drama.

- Barker (A. Leigh), *The Hymnal Appendix*, 4d. Based on a comparison of the five hymnals most extensively used in the Church of England, this includes no hymn which is not omitted from one or other of these books, and in most cases from more than one.
Bourdillon (F. W.), *The Early Editions of the 'Roman de la Rose'*.
Canning (Hon. A. S. G.), *Shakespeare studied in six plays*, 16/ net. This work, like 'Shakespeare studied in Eight Plays,' is intended for the general reader rather than the expert. The plays are 'Othello,' 'Macbeth,' 'King John,' 'Richard II.,' '1 and 2 Henry IV.,' and 'The Merry Wives of Windsor.'
Crabbe (G.), *Poems*, Vol. III., edited by A. W. Ward, 4/6 net.
Davidson (T.), *The Philosophy of Goethe's 'Faust'*, edited by C. M. Bakewell, 3/ net.
Herrick, *Poems*, 2/6. Selected, and with an Introduction by Canon Bechings.
Mure (J.), Sargeant (J.), and Gow (J.), *Lusus Alteri Westmonasteriensis (1586-1905)*. The earlier volumes gave the Prologues and Epilogues, as far as they have been preserved, down to 1865, with a selection of epigrams which included some of 1866. This volume gives the productions of forty years.
Nicholson (W.), *The Struggle for a Free Stage in London*, 10/6 net. The volume tells the story of the long struggle to free London from the theatrical monopoly—a struggle which began almost within the lifetime of the second Charles himself, and culminated in the Act of 1843.
Shepherd (F. B.), *Bernardine: a Dramatic Poem*, 2/ net.

History and Biography.

- Chadwick (H. M.), *The Origin of the English Nation*, 7/6 net.
Ditchfield (P. H.) and Clinch (G.), *Memorials of Old Kent*, 15/ net. An endeavour to make a selection of subjects which fairly represent some of the more important and noteworthy features of the county.
Dressler (F. A.), *Moltke in his Home*, 6/ net. Authorized translation by Mrs. C. E. Barrett-Lennard, with an Introduction by Lord Methuen. See p. 98.
Duckworth (H. T. F.), *Some Pages of Levantine History*, 3/6 net.
Howe (S. G.), *Letters and Journals during the Greek Revolution*, edited by his daughter, Laura E. Richards, 16/ net. An Introduction and Notes by F. B. Sanborn, and a Preface by Mrs. John Lane.
Huchon (R.), *Monsieur and her Friends*, 6/ net. An essay proposed as a thesis to the Faculty of Letters of the University of Paris.
Kropotkin (P.), *Memoirs of a Revolutionist*, 6/ See p. 98.
Mahaffy (R. P.), *Calendar of the State Papers relating to Ireland, 1663-5*.
Martin (F. A.), *Under the Absolute Amir*, 10/6 net. See p. 100.
Memoirs of 'Malakoff,' edited by his Son, R. M. Johnston, 2 vols. 24/ net. Extracts from the correspondence and papers of the late William Edward Johnston. See p. 98.
Morris (C.), *Heroes of the Army in America; Heroes of Progress in America*, 4/6 net each.

Nugent (Lady), *Journal: Jamaica 100 Years Ago*, edited by Frank Cundell, 5/ net. Reprinted from a Journal kept by Maria, Lady Nugent, from 1801 to 1815.
 Smith (Sir T.), *De Republica Anglorum: a Discourse on the Commonwealth of England*, edited by L. Alston, 4/ net. With a preface by the late F. W. Maitland.
 Stirling (J.), *The Colonials in South Africa, 1809-1902*, 10/ net. A continuation of "Our Regiments in South Africa," which was favourably noticed in *Athen.*, January 9th, 1904.
 Studies in Irish History, 1903-19, edited by R. Barry O'Brien, Second Series, 3/6 net. A course of lectures delivered before the Irish Literary Society of London.
 Verney (F. P. and M. M.), *Memoirs of the Verney Family: Vol. I. 1600-1650; Vol. II. 1650-96*, 7/ net. New Edition. For former notice see *Athen.*, June 11th, 1892.

Geography and Travel.

Cook's Handbook for Palestine and Syria, by the Rev. J. E. Hanauer and Dr. E. G. Masterman, Revised Edition, 7/8 net.
 New Map of Metropolitan Railways, Tramways, and Miscellaneous Improvements, 1/6. Up to date, and well executed.
 Scott (Sir J. G.), *Burma*, 10/6 net. A handbook of practical information.

Sports and Pastimes.

Great Golfers in the Making, edited by H. Leach, 7/6 net. Autobiographical accounts of the early progress of the most celebrated players, with reflections on the morals of their experience, by John L. Low, Harold H. Hilton, Horace G. Hutchinson, J. E. Laidlaw, Walter J. Travis, James Robb, Edward Blackwell, Harry Vardon, James Braid, J. H. Taylor, Alexander Herd, Willie Park, Tom Morris, and Jack White.
 Thomas (W. S.), *Hunting Big Game with Gun and Kodak*, 9/ net. A record of personal experiences in the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

Education.

Asquith (Rt. Hon. H. H.), *Ancient Universities and the Modern World*, 1/ net. Address delivered before the University of Glasgow on the 11th inst.
 Schoolmaster's Year-Book and Directory, 1907, 6/ net.
 Woodward (W. H.), *Studies in Education during the Age of the Renaissance, 1400-1600*, 4/8 net.

Philology.

Johnson (Trench H.), *Phrases and Names: their Origin and Meanings*, 6/. The author's design has been to account for the origin of popular phrases and names.

School-Books.

Black's Literary Readers, 1/. Book II, by J. Finmore.
 Black's Picture Lessons in English, Book II, 6d.
 Castellane (Comte P. de), *Souvenirs de la Vie Militaire*, edited by W. G. Hartog, 2/.
 Goethe, *Iphigénie auf Tauris*, edited by P. S. Allen, 3/.
 Mair (D.), *A School Course of Mathematics*, 3/6.
 Stallworthy (A.), *Le Français Parlé et Écrit: Livre des Commencements*, 3/6.
 Stendhal, *Racine et Shakespeare*, ed. by Leon Delbos, 3/ net.

Science.

Cathcart (C. W.), *The Essential Similarity of Innocent and Malignant Tumours*, 9/8 net.
 Christie (W. W.), *Boiler Waters, Scale, Corrosion, Foaming*, 12/6 net.
 Dr. Schlich's Manual of Forestry: Vol. IV. Forest Protection, by W. R. Fisher, Second Edition, 12/ net. For former review see *Athen.*, April 24th, 1897.
 Fidler (H.), *Notes on Construction in Mild Steel*, 16/ net. Arranged for the use of junior draughtsmen in the architectural and engineering professions.
 Fox (T. W.), *The Mechanism of Weaving*, 7/6 net.
 Jephson (H.), *The Sanitary Evolution of London*, 6/ net.
 Laxton's Price-Book for Architects, Builders, Engineers, and Contractors, 1907, 4/.
 Le Bon (Dr. G.), *The Evolution of Matter*, 5/. Translated from the third edition by F. Legge.
 Pearson (Capt. R. F.), *Military Panorama Drawing*, 1/6 net. We endorse the verdict of Major-General Hutchinson, who writes: "I would advise those who feel the need of some useful hints as to how to set about it."
 Poynting (Prof. J. H.), *The Pressure of Light*, 1/ net. An abstract of the thirteenth Robert Boyle Lecture.
 Tonge (J.), *The Principles and Practice of Coal Mining*, 5/ net.
 Wallis (F. C.), *Surgery of the Rectum*, 6/ net.

Juvenile Books.

Inman (H. Escott), *The Did of Didn't Think*, 2/6. A fairy story for boys and girls.

General Literature.

African Monthly, No. 1, 1/.
 Blyth (James), *Amazement*, 6/.
 Browne (J. H. Balfour), *Essays Critical and Political*, 2 vols., 7/6 net each. Reprinted from *The Westminster Review*, 1876-80, and *The National Review*, 1906.
 Burgin (G. B.), *Peggy the Pilgrim*.
 Burnett (F. H.), *The Dawn of a To-morrow*, 2/6 net. A pathetic short story, suitably illustrated by C. F. Yohn.
 Business Prospects Year-Book, 1907, 2/6.
 Clarke (E. M.), *The Potter's Vessel*, 6/.
 Cleve (Lucas), *The Rose Geranium*, 6/.
 Dickens (C.), *The Old Curiosity Shop*, 2 vols., National Edition, 10/6 net (sets only).
 Dunphie (C. J.), *Many-Coloured Essays*, 5/ net. The majority of these essays have been written in attempted conformity with the precept of Martial, "Ride si sepius."
 Elkington (E. Way), *The Two Forces*, 6/.
 Freeman (M. E. Wilkins), *By the Light of the Soul*, 6/.
 Gouldsbury (C.), *God's Outpost*, 6/.
 Hardy (T.), *The Trumpet-Major*, Pocket Edition, 2/6 net.
 Horniman (Roy), *Israel Rank*, 2/6 net.
 Kernahan (Mrs. Coulson), *The Disappearance of the Duke*, 6/.
 Lytton (Lord), *Harold, the Last of the Saxon Kings*, 7/6.
 Modern Cyclopædia, edited by Charles Annandale, Vol. V. New edition, revised and extended.
 Manufacture of Papers, 2/6 net. The greater number of the papers in the volume were originally published in *The Spectator* during May, June, and July, 1906.

Norris (W. E.), *Harry and Ursula*, 6/.
 Phillimore (Mrs. C. E.), *Two Women and a Maharajah*, 6/.
 Polen (N. L. de), *Clairice: the Story of a Crystal Heart*, 3/6.
 Pond (J.), "14" Tales, 1/6. Two of the tales were originally contributed to *The Cornhill*.
 Rouch (A.), *Some Successful Marriages*, 6/.
 Samlana, an Occasional Review, No. VI., 6d. net.
 Schooling (J. H.), *London County Council Finance*, 2/6 net. From the beginning down to March 31st, 1907, with 57 tables and 21 diagrams.
 Shiel (M. P.), *The Last Miracle*, 6/.
 Spencer (M. G.) and Falk (H. J.), *Employment Pictures from the Census*, 2/6 net.
 Stevenson (R. L.), *Works*, Pentland Edition, Vols. V.-VIII., 10/6 net each (sets only). For notice of former volumes see *Athen.*, Nov. 17th, 1906.
 Thom's Official Directory of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, 1907, 21/.
 Vacaresco (H.), *The King's Wife*, 6/.
 Warden (Florence), *Mad Sir Geoffrey*, 6/.
 Watson (H. B. Marriott), *A Midsummer Day's Dream*, 6/.
 Whom Pleasure Quicketh, by Momus, 6/.
 Yolland (E.), *Under the Stars*, 6/.

FOREIGN.

Theology.

Schmidt (H.), *Jona, eine Untersuchung zur vergleich. Religionsgeschichte*, 6m.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Hamel (H.), *Chroniques d'Art*, 3fr. 50.
 Heures d'Anne de Bretagne, Reproduction réduite des 63 Peintures du Manuscrit latin 9474 de la Bibliothèque nationale, 5fr.
 Reinach (S.), *Tableaux inédits ou peu connus tirés de Collections françaises*, 56 Planches en Phototypie.
 Winter (F.), *Die Kämme aller Zeiten von der Steinzeit bis zur Gegenwart*, 40m.

History and Biography.

Avenel (Vicente G. d'), *Prêtres, Soldats et Juges sous Richelieu*, 4fr.
 Bernard (C.), *La France et Guillaume II*, 3fr. 50.
 Daudet (E.), *Histoire de l'émigration pendant la Révolution française*, Vol. III, 7fr. 50.
 Herbet (M.), *Une Ambassade persane sous Louis XIV.*, 5fr.
 Huchon (R.), *Un Poète réaliste anglais: George Crabbe*, 10fr.
 Picard (E.), *1870: La Perte de l'Alsace*, 3fr. 50.
 Ussel (Vicente J. d'), *Études sur l'Année 1813: La Défection de la Prusse*, 7fr. 50.
 Zabel (E.), *Russische Kulturbilder*, 5m. Chiefly reminiscences of some Russians famous in art, music, and letters.

Geography and Travel.

Dodu (G.), *Vers les Terres Nouvelles: Explorateurs, Explorations*, 3fr.
 Maindron (M.), *Dans l'Inde du Sud*, 3fr. 50.

Bibliography.

Rahir (E.), *La Bibliothèque de l'Amateur*, 10fr.

Philology.

Delbrück (H.), *Syntaktismus, ein Beitrag zur German. Kasuslehre*, 7m.
 Dyboski (R.), *Tennysens Sprache und Stil*, 15m.

Science.

Chalon (P. F.), *Les Richesses minérales de l'Algérie et de la Tunisie*, 4fr. 50.
 Coste (Abbé), *Flore descriptive et illustrée de la France*, 3 vols., 70fr.
 Coustet (E.), *L'Électricité: Lois et Principes*, 5fr.
 Iovanovitch (D.), *Les Richesses minérales de la Serbie: I. Les Gisements aurifères*, 10fr.

General Literature.

Adam (P.), *Les Feux du Sabbat*, 3fr. 50.
 Bransiet (M.), *Raivo*, 3fr. 50.
 Canby (A.), *Mésalliance*, 3fr. 50.
 Jollicere (E.), *L'Année*, 3fr. 50.
 Lucenay (H.), *La Peine humerite*, 3fr. 50.
 Montoussé (H.), *Les Caprices*, 3fr. 50.
 Schuré (E.), *La Prêtresse d'Isis*, 3fr. 50.

*. All Books received at the Office up to Wednesday Morning will be included in this List unless previously noted. Publishers are requested to state prices when sending Books.

A FRENCH VIEW OF THE BOOK WAR.

It is always useful to know what our neighbours think of us. There has been, perhaps, sufficient English comment on the "Book War," but readers may like to see a letter on the subject by a well-known French author, not taking the commercial view favoured by a nation of shopkeepers. We give the letter as it stands, except for a few personal passages which concern only the recipient:—

Vous me demandez si je connais toutes les phases et péripéties de cette nouvelle Guerre des Livres déclarée entre le *Times* et les principales firmes des maisons d'édition anglaise. Je crois bien avoir suivi les hostilités dans nombre de vos grands journaux; j'ai même lu la brochure "Publishers and the Public." Reprinted from *The Times* of 1852. Je suis donc au fait du conflit depuis ses lointaines

origines. Je vous avoue même que je n'y apporterais qu'un intérêt distrait, n'y voyant guère matière à un poème épique tel qu'on en écrivait au dix-septième siècle, si je ne jugeais que du résultat du définitif de cette campagne de polémiques puisse dépendre la continuation, à un même degré d'élevation, de la noble tradition littéraire du Royaume-Uni.

Le *Times* foment l'insurrection du public contre le monopole des éditeurs; ceux-ci défendent les droits de leur négoce. Des deux côtés, le bon sens et la logique trouvent à s'exercer librement, et ce ne sont pas les arguments solides qui manquent aux bellérophons. Ces munitions qui servent à la guerre des tarifs du livre, ces schrapnells chargés de controverses, de corollaires, de dialectiques variées destinées à étourdir l'ennemi, tous ces projectiles ne visent, en définitive, que les parties matérielles du différent. Le public, à travers les fumées de cette lutte d'artillerie, cherche à distinguer dans quel camp se trouvent réservés ses intérêts directs, ceux de sa bourse. Or, comme il est et sera toujours pour le meilleur marché possible, je pense que l'opinion du plus grand nombre est favorable au *Times*, c'est à dire, au livre de première et de seconde main à un prix inférieur à ceux maintenus jusqu'à aujourd'hui.... Le grand public ne voit que le côté spécieux et séduisant de la question. Il serait difficile de lui faire considérer les choses avec une plus haute philosophie lorsque son raisonnement prend pour base l'état économique de son portemonnaie.

Mais, entre nous, laissez-moi vous dire, mon ami, que si j'avais l'honneur d'appartenir à la nation anglaise, si justement fière de ses traditions, de son patrimoine moral et intellectuel, conservé jusqu'ici merveilleusement intact, malgré le relâchement général facile à surprendre chez les divers peuples du Continent—si j'étais sujet britannique—je m'efforcerais, au risque, comme Cassandre, de n'être point écouté, de mettre en garde les esprits sérieux du Royaume contre l'illusoire progrès de la librairie à bon marché.

Je ne puis ici vous apporter toute la documentation historique nécessaire à la démonstration de mon opinion; un livre tout entier y suffirait à peine. Je n'en suis pas moins enclin à vous affirmer que, selon moi, le commerce des livres sérieusement envisagé et exclusivement dévoué à la mise en lumière des purs génies intellectuels d'un peuple ou d'une race, avec exclusion méthodique des médiocres et des pires écrivains—que ce négoce d'œuvres d'élite, conçues, écrites, publiées également pour l'élite du public, ne doit pas être galvaudé, c'est à dire, réduit au compromis des bas prix, des mauvaises fabrications, et des spéculations de tous les aventuriers d'affaires.

Un pays aussi riche que le vôtre en historiens, en philosophes, en essayistes, en novellistes, ne tarderait pas à déchoir dans sa noble caractéristique littéraire, si la librairie, baissant l'étiage à niveau des prix de vente, se trouvait sensiblement amenée—comme cela eut lieu chez nous—à multiplier sa production, à ne plus regarder à l'excellence de ses produits fabriqués ni aux qualités supérieures des auteurs, à camelotter, pour ainsi dire, la marchandise à tous points de vue.

Voyez ce qui s'est passé en France depuis le milieu du siècle dernier. La superbe école Romantique venait de prendre fin. Victor Hugo, Lamartine, Alfred de Musset, Dumas père, Honoré de Balzac, Mérimée, Théophile Gautier, Michelet, Frédéric Soulié, combien d'autres, parmi les meilleurs de nos poètes et romanciers, avaient été édités par les grands libraires de 1830 à 1850

en plusieurs tomes de format in 8°, publiés de six à dix francs, c'est à dire très cher, bien qu'imparfaitement imprimés sur papier de coton dans des conditions notablement inférieures à celles qui existent encore dans les principales firmes de vos actuelles maisons d'éditions. Le prix de vente de ces œuvres Romantiques n'avait ni restreint le tirage, ni entravé la divulgation de la renommée de leurs auteurs, ni même diminué es *benefices d'argent* de ceux-ci. Victor Hugo trouva encore le moyen d'être un homme d'affaires très entendu, et Balzac, malgré ses dettes, remua des sommes fort appréciables.

C'est vers 1850 que la librairie à bon marché apparut, avec la collection de Charpentier de format in-18, à 3fr. 50, et, pour les impressions, avec la Bibliothèque Michel Lévy à 1 fr. le volume. Tout d'abord on se félicita généralement du succès, on ne vit que l'heureuse révolution économique dont profitait largement le public. Flaubert, Daudet, de Goncourt, Zola, connurent les bienfaits de ventes considérables; certains romans de ces auteurs dépassèrent un tirage de quatre cent-mille exemplaires. Mais, en moins de vingt ans, le niveau littéraire fléchit; les éditeurs, vis à vis du succès des maîtres du roman, se firent plus accueillants, moins difficiles, et les écrivains amateurs devinrent plus hardis. A l'heure présente ils dominent, et les auteurs professionnels se confondent avec les gens du monde littéraires et les hommes d'affaires sans nombre qui écrivent. C'est la confusion des genres, l'anarchie des belles-lettres, la *Babel* de l'édition.

Au lieu de quelques centaines de livres par mois qui paraissaient jadis, il s'en publie actuellement plus d'un millier qui ne se recommandent d'aucun talent spécial. Et quels livres ce sont là! affreusement fabriqués à la hâte, imprimés sur papier de bois, d'une typographie fautive de composition et de tirage, d'une très médiocre brochure, présentant une tenue inconsistante. Quelle survie peut-on attendre de telles publications? Dix ans peut-être, vingt ans au plus. Oserait-on les comparer aux superbes volumes des maisons anglaises? Personne n'affronterait un tel paradoxe.

Le livre bon marché a donc en France forcé la production, détruit les qualités matérielles de la fabrication, ravalé la dignité des lettres. Le public ne connaît plus les généraux de sa littérature, il ne distingue plus le drapeau des écoles, il ne voit plus que les personnalités éclatantes que désigne l'infâme réclame; il n'entend plus que les écrivains tapageurs, ceux qui tirent, comme nous disons, *les coups de pistolet du scandale* pour attirer l'attention sur eux.

Devant le flux de cette littérature sans nom, devant tant de romans impudiques, tant d'autobiographies cyniques, d'exhibitions psychiques d'écrivains des deux sexes, la critique fut forcée d'abdiquer, laissant la place aux charlatans, aux bateleurs et aux marchands du temple désaffecté.

Macaulay n'écritait certes plus de la France littéraire d'aujourd'hui ce qu'il exprimait de notre nation au dix-septième siècle, à savoir: "*qu'elle exerçait sur le genre humain un empire que la République romaine elle-même n'exerça jamais à un pareil degré.*"

La librairie à bon marché, l'édition et la littérature ouverte à tous, la vulgarisation de la manie d'écrire, la décadence des lettres et des livres en France, *tout cela se tient et s'enchaîne, à mon avis, très logiquement.* J'estime que je le pourrais démontrer aisément même aux esprits les plus préconçus contre cette opinion.

Je crois que ceux qui, parmi vos com-

patriotes, souhaitent le régime des éditions à bas prix, sont profondément aveugles sur les conséquences fatales de cette révolution dans l'avenir. Réservez à vos admirables classiques, à vos illustres écrivains depuis Shakespeare jusques à Dickens, la vulgarisation des éditions coquettes à sixpence ou à 1 shilling, mais gardez-vous de livrer les auteurs contemporains au bazar des livres à bon marché. Ce serait porter une atteinte déplorable à cette dignité, à cette religion des lettres et du talent qui existent toujours sur votre sol vierge encore des révolutions qui chez nous ont causé, à côté d'immenses progrès illusoires, d'irréparables ruines réelles.

Protégez vos éditeurs, comme vous protégeriez les gardiens de vos écluses contre ceux qui voudraient détruire ces barrages si nécessaires, sous le prétexte du *fleuve libre* et ouvert à tous.

OCTAVE UZANNE.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN.

This Report is a very interesting document both to educators and to politicians. The enemies of the College hoped to have many grave abuses exposed, such as are common in the affairs of old undisturbed and wealthy corporations. These hopes have been disappointed; no grave abuses have been discovered, and the Commissioners report that the funds of the College have been honestly and carefully administered. There are many cordial expressions of admiration at the work done in the past; and if the Commissioners find defects in the educational equipment of the College, it is only in the providing of laboratories and research-rooms for the insatiable professors of modern science. The sooner it is clearly understood that an old university, giving an education in the liberal arts, ought not to, and cannot, be turned into a palatial workshop of modern science, the better for both arts and science.

But apart from this old-fashioned character of the College, stands the grave fact that it has not appealed to the great majority of the Irish nation. It was not within the scope of the Commission to point out who was to blame. The scheme proposed by some members of the society, that the College should be "widened" by the introduction of nominated Roman Catholic professors and governors, is put aside by the Commission, not because it would disturb the traditions of the place, and introduce an element of conflict hitherto absent, but because the Roman Catholic bishops will not have it. It remains, therefore, that there should be another College or University created and endowed which will attract the Catholic majority by avoiding the ban of the bishops. A new university of this sectarian kind is too retrograde and mediaeval a plan to be tolerated by the present House of Commons, or, indeed, by the country. But a new College, not exclusively sectarian, but containing from the outset a large Roman Catholic element, is the expedient which the whole Commission, with one exception, have agreed to recommend. And the exception is an *ipse dixit*, by the member representing Trinity College on the Commission.

So far, then, there is agreement, but now come the divergences. Three Commissioners desire to attach this new College to the Royal University of Ireland—an examining body which already has Roman Catholic colleges attached to it. They add the astonishing recommendation that this College shall enter into inter-collegiate relations with Trinity College and its University. They adopt

this solution on account of the determined hostility to any other expressed by several witnesses from Trinity College, who are naturally alarmed at having a valuable monopoly—the degrees of Dublin University—infringed. But the arguments of these witnesses, to the effect that Catholics and Protestants are so hostile and mutually suspicious as to make any joint action or management impossible, is the hopeless feature in the case. Such feelings—if they are, indeed, as rampant as they are represented—will destroy any hope of success for any solution.

The majority, among whom Chief Baron Palles is evidently the dominant spirit, consider that the new College should be a second College in the University of Dublin—a solution often advocated, and in itself reasonable, but for the angry opposition of the majority of Trinity College. It would realize what had been in the minds of the founders of the College, and what had often since been suggested—by Provost Temple in 1612, by Provost Chappell in 1635, by the Cromwellians in 1651, by Charles II. in 1660, &c. In the present case its supporters have unfortunately thrown in with it the Colleges of Cork, Belfast, and Galway, which would destroy the old University of Dublin by making it a federal or sprawling University, such as has often failed within the last fifty years, and such as has never yet succeeded. But this may be an excrescence on the scheme of adding a second College in Dublin to the Dublin University, with which the students of Trinity College might in time have many friendly competitions and other relations. This majority evidently consider the objections of Trinity College merely selfish and sentimental, and think it right to override them. M.

'YOUNG MOORE'S ALMANACK.'

IN *The Athenæum* dated the 12th inst. it is stated that my 'Young Moore's Almanack' closely resembles 'Signs of the Times.'

A "close resemblance" is a matter of fact, not of opinion, and can be tested by comparing the two books from cover to cover. In matter, form, and spirit, and in literary idiom, their demonstrable points of unlikeness outnumber their points of likeness (if there be any such) incalculably.

Does your reviewer maintain that satirical almanacs have only just been invented, and that they are a monopoly of the authors of 'Signs of the Times'? My 'Young Moore,' as its title shows, derives from 'Old Moore,' and from the astrological almanacs which have been popular throughout Western Europe during three centuries. To find its precursor (if it have one) your reviewer must go back to the days of Swift and to the satirical almanac with which "Isaac Bickerstaff, Esquire," literally slew the ill-starred astrologer Partridge, 198 years ago. Why 'Signs of the Times' should be dragged in I cannot imagine.

More. The manufacture of "close resemblances" to successful works is the most despicable of literary malpractices, and I resent heartily the unfounded suggestion that I am a parasite batten on others' brains.

YOUNG MOORE.

. We think that 'Young Moore' would find it difficult to demonstrate that the demonstrable points of unlikeness incalculably outnumber the others. For the rest, our description has been taken to imply much more than was intended. If grievance there be, we think it lies with the authors of 'Signs of the Times,' and not with 'Young Moore.'

SALES.

Messrs. SOTHEY, WILKINSON & HODGE included in their sale of the 14th-18th inst. the following books: Dugdale's *Monasticon Anglicanum*, 8 vols., 1846, 23s. Coningsby's *Collections of the Manor of Marden*, 1722, 19s. 10s. Drummond's *Noble Families*, 2 vols., 1846, 11s. 5s. Shakespeare's *Plays*, Second Folio (imperfect), 1632, 29s. 10s.; fourth edition (imperfect), 1685, 44s. Sheridan's *The Rivals*, first edition, 1775, 9s. 15s. Lysons's *Environs of London*, large paper, 5 vols., extra-illustrated, 1810-11, 32s. Ackermann's *Microcosm of London*, 3 vols., 1808-10, 16s. Sidney's *Countess of Pembroke's Arcadia*, first edition, 1590 (imperfect), 165s. Pyne's *Royal Residences*, 3 vols., 1819, 13s. 5s. Parkinson's *Paradise*, 1629, 26s. Williamson's *Oriental Field Sports*, 1807, 10s. Crescentius, *De Agricultura*, Basil, 1548, 14s. Skelton's *Marie Stuart*, Japanese paper, 1893, 10s. 10s. Armstrong's *Gainsborough*, 1898, 9s. 15s. Dickens's *Works*, Edition de Luxe, 30 vols., 1881-2, 12s. 17s. 6d.; Pickwick Papers, first edition, with autograph, 1837, 11s. 5s. Byron's *Poems on Several Occasions*, Newark, Ridge, 1807, 38s. Cruikshank's *Comic Almanack*, complete set, 1835-1853, 9s. Ireland's *Life of Napoleon*, illustrated by Cruikshank, 4 vols., 1823-7, 17s. 5s. Tudor Translations, 40 vols., 1892-1905, 22s. Triplet's *Writing Tables*, 1600, 20s. 10s. Alken's *Hunting and other Scenes*, 20 plates, 1850, &c., 14s. Shelley's *Zastrozzi*, first edition, 1810, 16s. 10s. Burton's *Arabian Nights*, 10 vols., 1885-6, 17s. Huth Library, edited by Grosart, 29 vols., 1881-6, 18s. 5s. Pope's *Essay on Criticism*, first edition, 1711, 15s. 5s. Boydell's *Shakespeare Gallery*, 16s. 10s. Caricatures (about 500), by Cruikshank, Gillray, Rowlandson, &c., 65s. Stafford Gallery, coloured plates, 1818, 23s. 10s.

The same auctioneers sold on the 23rd inst. the following from the library of Mr. S. Eyres Wilson: Apperley's *Memoirs of John Mytton*, second edition, 1837, 11s. 15s. Burton's *Arabian Nights*, 16 vols., 1885-8, 26s. The *English Spy*, illustrated by Cruikshank, 2 vols., 1825-6, 18s. Carey's *Life in Paris*, 1822, 10s. Egan's *Finish to the Adventures of Tom, Jerry, and Logie*, illustrated by Cruikshank, 1830, 18s. Defoe's *Fortunate Mistress*, first edition, 1724, 10s. 10s. Fielding's *Tom Jones*, Joseph Andrews, Amelia, and *Voyage to Lisbon*, first editions, 1742-55, 14s. 12s. 6d. Dr. Syntax's *Three Tours*, Rowlandson's plates, first editions, 1812-21, 20s. English *Dance of Death and Dance of Life*, Rowlandson's plates, 3 vols., 1815-17, 15s. Smollett's *Novels*, first editions, 13 vols., 1748-71, 16s. 15s. Sterne's *Tristram Shandy*, first edition (except vol. i.), 1760-67, 13s. 10s. Ackermann's *Microcosm of London*, 3 vols., 1808-10, 15s. Kelmscott Chaucer, 1896, 49s.

Literary Gossip.

'THE STATE OF THE NAVY IN 1907: A PLEA FOR ENQUIRY,' is a reprint by 'Civis' of articles in *The Spectator*. It will include considerable additions, dealing with the distribution of a fleet in commission at sea, the abolition and reduction of the naval dockyards and bases abroad, and the changes as to the fleet in reserve. Messrs. Smith & Elder are the publishers.

A NEW novel by Graham Hope, entitled 'Amalia,' will be published by the same firm next week. Amalia is a little German princess, who is chosen at a venture to marry the prince of a small Balkan State. Contrary to the Prince's wish, Amalia has not been told of the perils and difficulties attending her position, and has to learn them by degrees; but in the end everything comes right.

SIR R. HAMILTON LANG has an article in the February number of *Blackwood* on 'Fiscal Policy in France and Britain,' and Mr. V. Hussey-Walsh describes 'The

Working of a German General Election.' Other articles in the number are 'Lady Burdett-Coutts' by "One who Knew Her Well"; 'A Forgotten Precursor of Savonarola,' by Mary Love; 'Kashi,' by Mr. Edmund Candler; and 'The Parliament of 1906.'

MESSRS. KEGAN PAUL will publish early next month a new and exhaustive work on the Egyptian Sudan, by Dr. Wallis Budge. He went on three missions to the Sudan on behalf of the Trustees of the British Museum, and was engaged in excavations there. The work is not only a history of the Sudan from the earliest times to the present day, but also gives full and interesting descriptions of its monuments and inhabitants. It is profusely illustrated with photographs, many of them taken by the author.

MESSRS. LONGMAN have in the press a work by Mr. Henry W. Macrosty, entitled 'The Trust Movement in British Industry: a Study of Business Organization.' The author traces throughout the past twenty-five years the modern movement towards industrial combination in all its forms. The book concludes with some general economic criticisms, and is in the main analytic and descriptive. An appendix of illustrative documents is included.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS has undertaken the publication of an edition of the complete works of William Dunbar, under the editorship of Dr. H. Bellyse Baldon. It has been his endeavour to give, in as small a compass as possible, all information necessary to the full understanding of the text in the way of introduction, notes, and glossary. The text also includes poems attributed to Dunbar.

THE February number of *Macmillan's Magazine* has an article by "A Looker-on" on 'The White Man and the British Empire.' 'Is the Legal Oath Effective?' is written by Mr. Frederick Payler; Mr. W. J. Batchelder discusses 'The Failure of the Elementary School'; and a paper on 'A Lost Possession' deals with Minorca.

A NEW book by Mr. Francis Miltoun, author of 'Rambles in Normandy,' with coloured and other illustrations by Blanche McManus, is announced for immediate publication by Messrs. Sisley. Its title is 'Rambles in Provence,' and it is the outcome of recent journeys in Southern France.

SIR ISAAC PITMAN & SONS send us the following note with reference to Father Benson's 'The Sentimentalists,' one of the characters in which rumour has identified with a living person:—

"Owing to various conflicting rumours that have made their appearance in more than one quarter, the author of 'The Sentimentalists' wishes to make it absolutely clear that there is no such person in existence as 'Christopher Bell.' Except for a few mannerisms, taken by permission partly from one person and partly from another, and one conversation, unconnected with 'Christopher Bell,' taken from a report in a newspaper, there is not the smallest

shadow of truth, so far as the author is aware, in any of the incidents, conversations, or implications related in the book. He asks all those who have had any doubts on the matter to accept his emphatic assurances on this point. The book is pure and simple fiction."

MR. B. FLETCHER ROBINSON, who died on Monday last of typhoid fever at the age of thirty-five, had been busy as a journalist for the last ten years. He edited both the *Daily Express* and *Vanity Fair*, and had lately taken charge of *The World*. He was best known at Cambridge as a player of Rugby football, and began journalism in the *Granta*. Later he was called to the Bar, but soon took up the profession in which his uncle, Sir John Robinson, was prominent.

MESSRS. CONSTABLE & Co. will shortly issue a 'Virgil Pocket-Book,' edited, with translations and preface, by Mr. S. E. Winbolt, and containing a brief introduction by Mr. Arthur Sidgwick. The subtitle, 'Vergilii Musa Consolatrix,' explains the principle of the selection of passages, which was suggested recently by a writer in *The Athenæum*.

MR. ARNOLD WRIGHT is in Colombo, editing 'Twentieth-Century Impressions of Ceylon,' the latest volume of the series issued by Lloyd's Greater Britain Publishing Company. The work, which will appear in London in the early spring, under the supervision of Mr. Reginald Lloyd, the founder of the series, is an exhaustive survey of the colony. It will be illustrated with many hundreds of photographs.

WHEN his work in Ceylon is done, Mr. Wright, with other members of the staff, will go to Singapore, with a view to a volume on the Straits Settlements and British North Borneo.

THE DEAN OF MANCHESTER (Bishop Welldon), has in the press a volume of sermons addressed to schoolboys. They deal mainly with certain characters in Holy Scripture, and state firmly the fundamental principles of the Christian creed. The book will be published by the Religious Tract Society in the spring.

A COMMITTEE has been formed by some of the friends of the late Mrs. Craigie to promote a memorial to her. It is proposed to put up a portrait plaque in University College, London, and a replica in a suitable position in the United States; further, to found a Scholarship for the Study of Modern English Literature, to be given annually in England, and another under similar conditions in the United States. Subscriptions may be sent to Mrs. Rochfort Maguire, 3, Cleveland Square, St. James's, S.W.; Mrs. George Cornwallis West, Salisbury Hall, St. Albans; or Miss Blanche Eliot, 8, Onslow Gardens, South Kensington, S.W.

MR. W. H. S. JONES writes that his book 'Greek Morality in relation to Institutions,' which we noticed last week among school-books, is intended as an original contribution to learning.

THE BISHOP OF RIPON will preside at the 117th anniversary of the Royal Literary

Fund at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, on Wednesday, May 1st.

THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL have decided to put up tablets commemorating the residence of Blake at 28, Broad Street, Golden Square, and Charles Reade at 70, Knightsbridge.

WE notice that the Department of Historical Research at Washington issues a periodical list of American students working for the doctorate. Such a list of English students would be convenient to teachers and examiners. Perhaps the new Historical Association will note this. The latter body recently received a message of "fraternal greeting" from the American Historical Association, which, at its last meeting, also elected Mr. Bryce an honorary member—a unique distinction—in succession to Ranke, Mommsen, and Gardiner.

THE exigencies of original research, involving extraordinary delays in the case of access to the muniments of private corporations during the Long Vacation, have detained an unusually large number of American historical students, who have spent their Christmas in London with pardonable reluctance. Amongst these are several who are collecting materials for their doctoral theses, and notable contributions to the history of the Templars and the Anabaptists may be expected. Miss Davenport, representing the Carnegie Institution at Washington, returns this month, leaving a valuable mediæval text to her credit; but both Prof. Andrews and Prof. Gross will probably spend the summer here to complete historical works.

WE regret to announce the death of Miss Alice Oldham. Miss Oldham had for many years been connected with teaching in Ireland, and her lectures on philosophy and history at Alexandra College, which by special arrangement were open to the general public, attracted large audiences. She was a prominent advocate of educational progress in Ireland, and it was largely owing to her influence that Trinity College, Dublin, was opened to women students.

M. PAUL BAILLIÈRE is publishing, with M. Lemerre, on February 14th a version of more than forty 'Poètes allemands et Poètes anglais.' The German poets include all the chief classics; and the English, besides Beaumont and Fletcher, Browning, Burns, Byron, Marlowe, Milton, Shakespeare, Shelley, Swinburne, and Tennyson, are represented by Canning, Hemans, Moore, Swift, and Thomson. We presume that "Hold Tom" stands for Tom Hood.

FRENCH critics are excited by the discovery that the military novel of *La Revue de Paris*, 'Le Cas du Lieutenant Sigmarie,' already named by us, and attributed by them to a distinguished general officer, is from the pen of a well-known lady—"Jean Pommerol." Her first novel (1894), 'Déraciné,' suggested the series, "Les Déracinés," of M. Barrès.

ON February 7th M. Lemerre will bring out 'Dans l'Inde du Sud,' by M. Maurice

Maindron. The author, who has known the Far East for thirty years, relates what he has seen in the south of India, which most tourists usually slight.

IN the vaults of the Town Hall at Merthyr Tydfil were placed a large number of ancient MSS., on their removal from the old parish chests, when the Urban District Council took over the powers of the vestry. These records relate to the early history of Wales, and among them are some which throw light on Prince Llewellyn. They will be examined and reported on by a competent authority.

THE CANTERBURY AND YORK SOCIETY for the publication of Episcopal Registers is now well established, and good work may be expected from its new general editorship. Active progress is being made with registers of Lincoln, Canterbury, Hereford, and Carlisle. There is a steady increase of membership. Among those recently admitted are Sir Henry Howorth and Dr. Gee, Master of University College, Durham. Dr. Gee has been also elected a member of the Council.

AN interesting "Exposition Internationale du Livre" will be opened at the Grand Palais, Paris, in July next, and will remain on view until October 20th. The show aims at including every phase in the production of books, newspapers, and advertising.

ON February 19th and 20th there is an important sale of autographs belonging to C. G. Boerner, at Leipsic. The catalogue includes facsimiles which cover a wide field in art, music, and letters. There are seventy-four items concerning the royal house of Prussia alone; and men of action, like Bismarck, Blücher, and Moltke, are well represented.

ARRANGEMENTS have just been made for the publication by the firm of Geber in Stockholm of a Swedish translation of Dr. Rose's 'Life of Napoleon.' The German translation recently published by Messrs. Greiner & Pfeiffer, of Stuttgart, is being widely circulated.

THE Parliamentary Papers of the most general interest to our readers this week are Correspondence with reference to the Rules and Programme of Intermediate Education Examinations, Ireland (2*½*d.); and Income Tax Committee, Report, Proceedings, and Evidence (2s. 7*d.*).

IN our next number we shall pay special attention to theological books.

SCIENCE

RESEARCH NOTES.

THE question of valency, which has for so long been debated by physicists, has at last been taken up by the chemists, to whom it properly belongs, and Messrs. Barlow and Pope in the current *Transactions* of the Chemical Society give a prolonged study of the matter in a paper which they call 'A Development of the Atomic Theory.' Their idea is that every atom in a compound is surrounded by a "sphere of influence" which it exerts uniformly, and that the

chemical molecule acquires a definite shape by the stereometric arrangement or "packing" of these spheres of influence. In the course of this packing, the spheres of influence or some of them become slightly deformed, and "the symmetrical arrangement in space of an indefinitely large number of spheres of atomic influence" forms a crystal. The removal from "a homogeneous close-packed assembly of spheres" of similarly environed single spheres or groups leaves cavities, which can be re-occupied by similar spheres or groups, and the whole assembly will then be as close packed as before. The authors contend that they can thus account not only for the behaviour in composition of univalent, bivalent, trivalent atoms, and so on, but also for that of those apparently abnormal substances which change their valency. A good example of these is carbon—which in CO₂ is quadrivalent, but in CO is bivalent—or nitrogen, which in NH₃ is trivalent, but in NH₄Cl quinquevalent, the variation always proceeding, it may be noted, by multiples of 2. The attempted explanation of valency by physicists (see especially *The Athenæum*, Nos. 4039 and 4041) has not hitherto taken note of this fact. Messrs. Barlow and Pope's theory goes, therefore, a few steps further than its predecessors, besides giving an explanation, as these last do not, of the forms of the crystal. But the paper in question is not exactly easy to understand, and it is probable that when an entirely satisfactory explanation of valency is produced, it will be more simple than the one there given.

IN this regard, attention may be drawn to an excellent summary in the *Revue Générale des Sciences*, by M. Wyruboff (professor at the Collège de France), of the modern theories on the structure of crystallized media. After going through these with perhaps some leaning towards the theory of M. Friedel, he warns his readers against "falling into the error which has for so long a time hindered the progress of crystallography in Germany," or, in other words, against losing themselves in mathematical abstractions. He points out that the crystal should be considered not as a combination of planes, but as a body which, even in the absence of facets, possesses very various and characteristic properties; while he draws attention to what he calls the "inconceivable miracle" that by the mere addition of water not only the characteristic shape of the crystal disappears, but also, according to modern theory, the chemical molecule itself. Perhaps this was one of the instances of which M. Henri Poincaré was thinking when he said in his allocution last month to the Académie des Sciences "Mathematics is sometimes a nuisance, or even a danger, when, by reason of the very precision of its language, it leads us into affirming more than we know."

IN this month's *Philosophical Magazine* Dr. Otto Hahn continues his researches into the nature of radio-actinium, or the curious transformation which actinium undergoes before giving birth to that actinium X which is itself the parent of the emanation. He mentions incidentally that his experiments were made at once with the actinium of M. Debierne and the emanium of Prof. Giesel, and that the behaviour of the two bodies was identical, which leaves, he says, no doubt possible that they are actually the same. It will be remembered that Sir William Ramsay announced to the Congress of Radiology at Liège the discovery by Dr. Hahn of a substance resembling radio-actinium with thorium substituted, which he named radiothorium. As both these sub-

stances possess a power of emitting rays comparable to that of radium, but, unlike the last named, have sulphates soluble in water, they have some advantages over it for experiments in radio-activity. The composition of thorianite, the Ceylon mineral from the analysis of which radiothorium was first obtained, has been submitted to further investigation by Dr. Büchner in the laboratory at University College, Gower Street. The results of this investigation, which appear in the Royal Society's *Proceedings*, rather hint at the presence in thorianite of a hitherto unknown substance with marked radio-active properties.

The discovery of the X rays has given an enormous impulse to the manufacture of vacuum tubes of all kinds, and every one hailed with pleasure Sir James Dewar's recent discovery that a high vacuum might be easily created in a glass tube by the addition to it of a subsidiary tube containing powdered cocoa-nut charcoal and plunged in liquid air. Prof. Soddy in a paper lately read before the Royal Society, but not yet published in the *Proceedings*, warns his readers against trusting too implicitly to such a vacuum, which he says generally contains the argon and other inert gases of the atmosphere unaltered. As these gases are not absorbed by charcoal, he advises that the air be removed as far as possible by some such instrument as a Fleuss pump, and the last traces of it replaced by some argon-free gas. Instead of charcoal, he recommends the use of calcium, which when heated to 700°-800° C. will absorb all common gases, and will, he says, leave a vacuum so perfect that the electric discharge cannot be forced through it. The difficulty of heating a tube to this temperature without melting it has been overcome by using an alternating current outside the vessel, which operates through the walls by induction. M. Georges Claude has also exhibited to the Société Française de Physique an ingenious apparatus by which the production of a charcoal vacuum is made more efficient.

To the same Society MM. Cotton and Mouton have made a communication as to the birefringence produced in certain fluids by an intense magnetic field. Majorana, who first examined the subject, thought that the birefringence varied proportionally to the square of the field. By the help of the huge electromagnet set up by Prof. Weiss in the laboratory of the Zurich Polytechnic, the authors have exposed fluid dialyzed iron to a field of 35,000 units, and find that Majorana's law holds good only for fields of small intensity. They see reason to think, too, that such a liquid as that with which they experimented contains two sorts of particles, one of which possesses strong negative birefringence and floats to the top of the liquid, while the other, the birefringence of which is positive and feeble, remains at the bottom.

Profs. Gehrcke and Reichenheim have communicated to the German Physical Society their researches on what they call the anodic rays. They now admit that their former contention that the canal or positive rays are emitted by the anode of a vacuum tube is incorrect, and that these, like the cathodic generally so called, come from the cathode. Yet they are still of opinion that the anode in certain circumstances may emit rays of its own, and that these rays will be found to consist of positively charged particles. The problem is a curious one, and still far from being settled. Profs. Strasser and Wien, of Dantzig, gave at the Stuttgart Congress of German Physicists

some particulars of a method of conducting these researches which they called tele-objective, and by which the changes in light within the tube are automatically photographed. They have thus succeeded in showing that the canal rays are heterogeneous and of different speeds. Prof. Stark, in the discussion that followed, challenged some of their conclusions, and promised to publish his own in an early number of the *Annalen der Physik*.

The attribution of certain centres of the brain to the different senses has long been an article of scientific faith, and the assignment by Broca of the foot of the third cerebral convolution on the left side of the brain to the faculty of articulate speech has been accepted ever since he announced it in 1871. It follows that if this part of the brain be removed, the patient should suffer from aphasia, or the loss of the power of articulating words, and this seemed to be confirmed by experiment. But the converse proposition, i.e., that the brain of a person attacked by aphasia will be found at the autopsy to exhibit a lesion of this particular part of the cortex, is by no means so well established, and this has led Dr. Pierre Marie, professor at the Paris Faculté de Médecine, to make further experiments. More than forty autopsies of aphasic subjects have convinced him that the centre of Broca has been attacked in none of these cases, while in most of them he has found the disease associated with cerebral hæmorrhage extending over a large region. From examination of living "aphasics," he gathers, too, that aphasia is always accompanied by a diminution of the general intelligence, and that its seat cannot, therefore, be assigned to any particular part. As M. Vaschide remarks in reporting these conclusions, the result of Dr. Marie's researches has been to throw doubt on all the localizations of Broca, and the biological world will not be easy in its mind until the whole question has been examined into afresh.

Mr. Douglas Rudge's paper on the action of radium and other salts upon gelatine has found its way into the Royal Society's *Proceedings*, and reads like a revival of a just-forgotten controversy. The writer has no trouble in demonstrating the fact—often asserted in these Notes—that radium has no special action upon gelatine, and that the supposed 'growths' that it there causes are due to the barium invariably associated with its salts. Other substances, such as agar-agar, starches, and gums, were added to the meat solution employed, with the same result in all cases; that is to say, that if distilled water were used in making up the jelly, no growth could be seen; but that one made its appearance if tap water were used, and became dense if a soluble sulphate were added. When pure barium salts were used instead of the radium, exactly the same phenomena occurred, and nothing of the nature of cell-division could be traced, even when the magnifying power was increased by projection up to 12,000. Other experiments all showed that the so-called cells were due to the precipitate of an insoluble sulphate of barium, caused by the presence of sulphur in the gelatine or elsewhere; and that when the supply of this was exhausted, their formation ceased. While Mr. Rudge deserves every credit for having thus pointed out the true cause of the phenomenon in question, it must be repeated that this fact was first announced by M. Raphael Dubois, of Lyons, who also declared that the presence of radium was not a necessary condition to the appearance of the "growths."

F. L.

MISS AGNES MARY CLERKE.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death at Kensington, on Sunday last, in the sixty-fourth year of her age, of this distinguished astronomical writer, whose works will indeed form a solid monument to her memory. Of her three principal productions, the first, 'A Popular History of Astronomy during the Nineteenth Century,' appeared in 1885, and the fourth edition in 1902; the second, 'The System of the Stars,' in 1890, and a greatly improved edition last year; the third, 'Problems in Astrophysics,' which deals especially with the present state of astronomy and its probable lines of progress, in 1903. But there are smaller works, perhaps of greater interest to the general public: an appreciative biography in one volume of the three Herschels—Sir William, Caroline, and Sir John; and a very suggestive little treatise on 'Modern Cosmogonies,' which we had occasion to notice on April 28th, 1906. Besides these separate works, Miss Clerke was a frequent contributor to scientific periodicals, particularly *The Observatory*, *Knowledge*, and others.

Her studies, however, were not restricted to astronomy or physical science. In 1892 she published a small, but able work entitled 'Familiar Studies in Homer'; of this it is remarked in *The Athenæum* of June 25th in that year that "her reading is wide enough to enable her to throw many fresh lights on the old problems," and that "her scientific training has rendered her remarkably accurate in her facts." Perhaps we may repeat here what we said in noticing her 'Modern Cosmogonies': "A notable characteristic of Miss Clerke's books is the thoroughness with which she goes into all the questions connected with the points she is discussing." Some years ago she gained a knowledge of practical astronomy at the Cape Observatory, under the guidance of Sir David Gill; and in dedicating to him her last great work, 'Problems in Astrophysics,' she stated that its composition was due to his suggestion, and aided by his encouragement and advice. The Royal Astronomical Society elected her one of their few honorary members. Personally Miss Clerke was highly esteemed by a large circle of friends, and astronomers feel that her death is a great loss to their science.

SOCIETIES.

GEOLOGICAL.—Jan. 9.—Sir Archibald Geikie, President, in the chair.—Capt. F. I. L. Ditmas, and Messrs. F. A. Eastaugh, J. J. Garrard, and J. H. Woodhead were elected Fellows.—The following Fellows were elected auditors of the Society's accounts for the preceding year: Mr. C. Fox Strangways and Capt. A. W. Stiffe.—The following communications were read: 'On the Cretaceous Formation of Bahia, Brazil, and on the Vertebrate Fossils contained therein,' by Mr. J. Mawson and Dr. A. S. Woodward,—"On a New Dinosaurian Reptile from the Trias of Lossiemouth, Elgin," by Dr. Woodward.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Jan. 17.—Sir Edward Brabrook, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. Reginald Smith read a paper on 'The Wreck on Pudding-pan Rock,' a shoal in the Thames estuary four miles north of Herne Bay. There has long been a tradition that a boat, laden with Roman pottery of the so-called Samian ware, ran ashore at this point and became a wreck; and the fact that a number of such bowls have been dredged from the Rock by oyster-fishermen would in this way be reasonably explained. Governor Pownall, a Fellow of the Society, drew attention to these discoveries as long ago as 1778, and his memoir called forth some acute criticisms in the succeeding volume of *Archæologia*. Recent investigations in France are

alone sufficient to demolish his theory that the ware was manufactured on the spot, though it is by no means improbable that the Rock formed part of the mainland in Roman times. The erosion of the London clay westward from Reculver has been very rapid, and it is stated that between 1872 and 1896 as much as 1,000 ft. was lost. But the geographical question is of secondary importance, as no wasters or handbricks, no moulds or potters' stamps, have been recovered from the Rock; and the potters whose names appear on the ware are in several cases known to have worked at Lezoux, in the department of Puy-de-Dôme, in the second century of our era. Of these names 30 are now known from 167 specimens recently examined from the shawl, and everything points to a common centre of production. Of extant examples, 14 is the largest number stamped by the same potter, and single specimens of 11 others have so far been recovered. Seventeen potters on the list seem to have restricted themselves to one or another of the fourteen shapes represented; eight produced two forms each; and five affixed their stamps to three forms. The fourteen shapes fall into seven types, and only eight of the number bear the potter's name, though rosettes and concentric rings occur in place of them. Except for ivy leaves in "slip" on some of the rims, the bulk of the ware is unornamented, of fine red with coralline glaze. A totally distinct ware is, however, represented by one two-handled vase; and a larger specimen is recorded, and described as "Tuscan." The paste is pale brown with a black surface of the finest quality, and, if the wreck theory is accepted, was doubtless manufactured at Lezoux. Various considerations point to the latter half of the second century as the date of manufacture; and a bowl belonging to one of the Rock types, but with a strange potter's mark, has been found in Norfolk containing coins that were deposited in 175 A.D. The name of the Rock is due to the Whitstable custom of serving the "pudding-pie" in these vessels on Ash Wednesday; and the association of fourteen strictly contemporary forms from the wreck will be of service in dating Romano-British remains.—Specimens were exhibited to illustrate the paper by Mr. G. M. Arnold, Dr. J. W. Hayward, and Mr. Sibert Saunders; and a series was lent by the Royal Museum, Canterbury, by permission of the Mayor. Thirty-three specimens are now exhibited together in the British Museum.—Mr. H. Thackeray Turner exhibited casts of two sculptures, now somewhat weathered, on one of the tower buttresses of Bucklebury Church, Berks. The one represents the Rood with a black-letter inscription, of which the final words are *Ihe merci*, and what may once have been a seated figure of Our Lady and Child. The other carving probably represents a wheelwright dressing the edge of a large wheel with an adze. The carvings are apparently *temp. Edward IV.*

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—Jan. 16.

—Mr. C. H. Compton in the chair.—The Rev. W. S. Lach-Szyrma read a paper on 'The Restoration of Ancient British Churches,' touching upon the vexed question of restoration or repair, and argued that it was better that old buildings should be restored in a careful and reverent manner than that they should be left to the tender mercies of the relic hunter. The only really safe place for relics of antiquity was the nearest museum, where at any rate they would be safe from vandal hands. In this connexion it was a noteworthy fact that in the Middle Ages many carved stones that were found were preserved and built into the fabric of the nearest church, and thus numerous important relics had been preserved and handed down to this day, particularly some of the inscribed stones of the fifth and earlier centuries. The churches especially dealt with in the paper were those of Perranzabuloe, Gwithian, and Llantwit Major; and in conclusion the author urged that it was most desirable that these early relics of our Church in this country should be preserved from further decay, and that to effect this they should again be rendered fit for the celebration of divine service within them.—Mr. R. H. Forster advocated the repair and preservation of ancient buildings rather than restoration, and quoted several attempts at the restoration of mediæval castles that were failures. Messrs. Compton, Shenstone, and Tooker also took part in the discussion.

ROYAL NUMISMATIC.—Jan. 17.—Sir John Evans, President, in the chair.—Mr. R. Allatini was elected a Fellow.—Mr. T. Bliss exhibited seven Anglo-Saxon pennies, which were reported to have been found on the site of the old Archbishop's Palace at Croydon. The coins were of Cenwulf, King of Mercia; Ceolnoth, Archbishop of Canterbury; and Eghert and Ethelwulf, Kings of Wessex, and were struck during the first half of the ninth century. That of Cenwulf of Mercia is of an unpublished type, having on the obverse the bust of the king, and on the reverse a star of six points pomme, and the moneyer's name "Wintred." The concealment of the coins must have occurred early in the reign of Ethelwulf, c. 845.—Mr. L. Forrer showed a series of recent medals, the work of French, Belgian, and German artists; and Mr. L. A. Lawrence two forgeries of pennies of Harold II. and William I. of the so-called "Pax" type, and purporting to be struck at Lewes by the moneyer "Leofine."—Lady Evans read a paper on a silver badge of Thetford, having on one face the arms of Sir Joseph Williamson, and on the other the arms of the borough of Thetford. Sir Joseph Williamson, who was a graduate and Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford, was Clerk of the Council, Secretary of State, a member of the Privy Council, and President of the Royal Society. He was elected M.P. for Thetford in 1667, held his seat for several successive Parliaments, and was made Recorder of the borough in 1682. He was the founder of *The Oxford Gazette*, which merged into *The London Gazette*, still existing. The precise purpose of this badge, of which others are in existence, is somewhat uncertain. It is suggested locally that these badges may have been Aldermen's badges; but Lady Evans thought it possible that they were worn by the four musicians who were attached to the court of the Mayor of Thetford, as Williamson himself was no mean musician.—Mr. F. A. Walters gave an account of some groats of Richard II. to Henry VI., being a portion of a find of some 200 or more, presumably discovered somewhere in the City of London.

LINNEAN.—Jan. 17.—Prof. W. A. Herdman, President, in the chair.—The Rev. A. J. Campbell, Mr. W. H. Young, and Mr. J. C. Newsham were admitted Fellows.—Miss M. Anderson Johnson was elected a Fellow.—Mr. W. H. Pearson was elected an Associate.—The General Secretary drew attention to the copy by Jean Haagen of the portrait of Carl von Linné, by J. H. Scheffel, dated 1739, now preserved in the Linnean Museum at Hammarby, which has been presented to the Society by the University of Upsala. A vote of thanks to the University for this most acceptable gift was agreed to unanimously.—The paper by Mr. W. Botting Hemsley on '*Platanthera chlorantha*, Cuscut, var. *tricalcarata*,' was, in the absence of the author, read by Dr. Stapf.—Mr. Carruthers, Prof. Farmer, Dr. Rendle, Dr. Scott, Mr. J. C. Shenstone, and Prof. F. W. Oliver, spoke on the paper.—The second paper was by the late Mr. C. Baron Clarke, entitled '*Acanthaceæ of Insular Malaya*,' and was introduced by Dr. Stapf. This paper was complementary to a similar one drawn up for the 'Materials for a Flora of the Malay Peninsula,' now in course of issue by Sir George King and Mr. Gamble.—Mr. Carruthers gave expression to the general and deep regret at the loss to systematic botany by the death of the author, with an appreciation of his character and work.—The Rev. T. R. R. Stebbing described an Isopod, *Tachæa spongillicola*, n. sp., of the family Coralaniæ.—A paper 'On a New British Terrestrial Isopod,' by Mr. Alexander Patience, was read by the Zoological Secretary. The species in question, which Mr. Patience has named *Trichiscus stebbingi*, n. sp., was first obtained by him in a field near Alexandra Park, Glasgow, in company with *T. pygmaeus*, Sars, and *Trichiscoides albidus* (Budde-Lund), and subsequently in some numbers in one of the propagating houses of the Glasgow Botanic Gardens.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Jan. 23.—Annual Meeting.

The following officers and other members of the Council were elected for the session 1907-8: President, Mr. C. O. Waterhouse; Treasurer, Mr. A. H. Jones; Secretaries, Mr. H. Rowland-Brown and Commander J. J. Walker; Librarian, Mr. G. C.

Champion; and Mr. G. J. Arrow, Mr. A. J. Clitty, Dr. T. A. Chapman, Mr. W. J. Kaye, Dr. G. B. Longstaff, Prof. R. Meldola, Mr. F. Merrifield, Mr. G. A. K. Marshall, Mr. L. B. Prout, Mr. E. Saunders, Mr. R. Shelford, and Mr. G. H. Verrall.—The outgoing President, Mr. F. Merrifield, then delivered his address, in which he discussed some of the causes of the persistent abundance or scarcity, generally or locally, of insects, and the relative importance of the consumption of their food and the attacks of their enemies. Reference was made to striking characters that seemed of no biological importance: to habits and activities not directly concerned with nutrition or reproduction, and the manner in which they are affected by external conditions; and to structure and fixed habits indicating ancestral history and affecting present capabilities.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Jan. 22.—Sir Alexander Kennedy, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'Internal-Combustion Engines for Marine Purposes,' by Mr. J. T. Milton.

HISTORICAL.—Jan. 17.—Rev. W. Hunt, President, in the chair.—Prof. Hearnshaw, Mr. H. J. Newbolt, and Mr. E. T. Powell were elected Fellows; and the Royal Library, Moscow, was admitted as a subscribing library.—Before the reading of a paper by Mr. G. J. Turner on 'The Minority of Henry III., Part II.,' the President alluded to the irreparable loss sustained by the English school of history in the death of Prof. Maitland, an Hon. Vice-President of the Society, and read a letter from Dr. Prothero appreciating his work at the highest value. Mr. Turner, Sir Frederick Pollock, and Dr. Ward, Master of Peterhouse, also spoke on various aspects of Prof. Maitland's writings and influence.—Mr. Turner then read his paper, referring chiefly to the sources for the history of the minority of Henry III., and the necessity of receiving with caution the views of monastic chroniclers, who were not favourable to the Papal Legates who were largely responsible for his government.

FARADAY.—Jan. 15.—Sir Joseph Swan, Past-President, in the chair.—Mr. E. E. Fournier d'Albe read a paper on 'The Application of the Electron Theory to Electrolysis.'—The Chairman referred to the inadequacy of the old ideas to account completely for all the phenomena of conduction, electrolytic and other—ideas which he none the less found it not easy to get rid of, without at least some further consideration.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

- MOX. Institute of Actuaries, 5.—Further Notes on some Legal Aspects of Life Assurance Practice, Mr. A. R. Barraud.
- London Institution, 5.—The Transmutation of Elements, Prof. Sir W. Ramsay.
- Society of Arts, 8.—Gold Mining and Gold Production, Lecture I, Prof. J. W. Gregory. (Cantor Lecture.)
- Surveyors' Institution, 8.—The Uses of a Geological Collection, Dr. H. Woodward.
- Geographical, 8.30.—A Journey through Central Asia to Northern China, Major C. D. Bruce.
- TUES. Royal Institution, 3.—Survivals from the Past in the Plant World, Lecture I, Prof. A. C. Seward.
- Colonial Institute, 4.30.—Rhodesia and its Resources, Mr. E. H. Miller.
- Faraday, 8.—Discussion on 'Osmotic Pressure.'
- Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—Discussion on 'Internal-Combustion Engines for Marine Purposes.'
- Society of Arts, 8.—The Artistic Treatment of the Exterior of the Piano-forte, Mr. W. Dale. (Applied-Art Section.)
- WED. Dante, 3.30.—Il Convito, Rev. H. Carr.
- Society of Arts, 8.—Apprenticeship, Mr. J. Parsons.
- Sociological, 8.—Swiss Referendum as Instrument of Democracy, Mr. J. A. Holson.
- TUES. Royal Institution, 3.—Standards of Weights and Measures, Lecture I, Major F. A. MacMahon.
- Royal, 4.30.
- London Institution, 6.—Some Hints on collecting Old China, Mr. C. J. Talbot.
- Society of Antiquaries, 8.30.—The Funeral Effigies of the Kings and Queens of England, with Special Reference to those now preserved in Westminster Abbey, the Dean of Westminster and Mr. W. H. St. John Hope.
- FRI. Philological, 8.—Pronunciation of Latin, Dr. Grundy.
- Royal Institution, 8.—The Methods of combating the Bacteria of Disease in the Interior of the Organism, Sir A. E. Wright.
- SAT. Royal Institution, 3.—Papal Deposing Power, Lecture I, Rev. W. Barry.

Science Gossip.

THE death in his fifty-fourth year is announced from Leipsic of Dr. Paul Möbius, to whose earnest investigations, especially in diseases of the nerves, medical science is much indebted. Of his numerous works, those dealing with distinguished men, such as Rousseau, Schopenhauer, and Nietzsche,

from a pathological point of view, aroused much controversy. He was editor of the well-known 'Schmidt's Jahrbuch der gesamten Medizin.' Among his books are 'Das Nervensystem des Menschen,' 'Die Nervosität,' and 'Ueber die Anlage zur Mathematik.'

AMONG recent Parliamentary Papers are Report of the Advisory Committee for the Tropical Diseases Research Fund for 1906 (54d.); the Statistical Report of the Health of the Navy for 1905 (9d.); and, for the same year, the Army Medical Department Report (2s.).

MR. UNWIN will publish this spring an illustrated volume by Mr. Ernest Ingersoll, entitled 'The Wit of the Wild.' It contains a series of studies in popular natural history, dealing chiefly with the ways and means employed by wild animals in their struggle for existence.

THE death is announced of the eminent French specialist on the eye, Dr. Émile Javal, in the sixty-eighth year of his age. His works include 'Entre Aveugles,' which has been translated into several languages, and 'La Physiologie de la Lecture, de l'Écriture, des Signes en Général,' which appeared in 1905 and was out of print in three months. Dr. Javal, who lost one eye in 1885, and became totally blind some six years ago, was a member of the Académie de Médecine.

SIR ISAAC PITMAN & SONS are issuing, in a uniform edition, a series of popular science books. Four of these are devoted to astronomy, three being the work of Sir Robert Ball, and one, 'Astronomy for Everybody,' from the pen of Prof. Newcomb. The romance of aeronautics is interwoven with a serious scientific study by the late Rev. J. M. Bacon; Mr. John J. Ward contributes two volumes on microscopical subjects; and the remaining three books in the series, by the late Dr. Hugh Macmillan, illustrate the study of nature by correlating with it the teachings of poetry, ethics, and religion.

'THE MEANING OF EDUCATION AS INTERPRETED BY HERBERT,' which is the first volume of Messrs. Ralph, Holland & Co.'s projected "Educational Science Series," will be out shortly. The author, Dr. Hayward, an inspector under the L.C.C., is an enthusiast and an expert, having already contributed largely to the literature of pedagogy.

AT Gresham College four lectures on 'The Planet Venus and the Orbit of the Moon' will be delivered by the Rev. Edmund Ledger, on the evenings from January 29th to February 1st.

SIR CHARLES TODD, K.C.M.G., having last year attained the age of eighty, has resigned the directorate of the Adelaide Observatory, South Australia. In his younger days he was assistant, first in the observatory at Cambridge under Challis, and afterwards in that at Greenwich under Airy. He went to Australia in 1855 to take charge of the telegraph and postal service there, as well as of the small observatory at Adelaide.

OF the parties who travelled to Turkestan in the hope of obtaining observations of the total eclipse of the sun on the 14th inst., a telegraphic communication has been received from Prof. Schorr, of Hamburg, headed "Dschisak, province of Samarkand," and to the effect that the sky was overcast and snow falling during the time of the eclipse, so that no observations, except photometric and meteorological, were possible.

FINE ARTS

THE MODERN SOCIETY OF PORTRAIT PAINTERS.

SUCH a title as the above brings home in vivid fashion the multiplication of picture shows that is going on in London. To most of us the Portrait Society that recently exhibited in the New Gallery was modern enough, and in fact the first impression of this show is that it is simply a continuation of the other. On closer examination one hesitates whether to regard it thus or as an overflow from the International; and though the best work here is up to the best standard of either of the older societies, yet in neither case do we consider that the original institution called for extension.

Indeed, we submit that this multiplication of picture exhibitions has a dangerous tendency. In the first place, the public that is interested in such things has not increased proportionately, and consequently the more exhibitions there are, the fewer are the visitors to each, for the very number of these shows makes it impossible for any one, however interested, to attempt to see them all; while the desire that possesses some artists to see their pictures always as the central feature of an exhibition, surrounded by a background of inferior work, is not a factor that offers a handsome shillingworth to the fastidious or niggardly portion of the paying public. In the second place, while there is a disposition on the part of the press to regard the foundation of these new societies as leading to artistic activity, the temptation in reality is for artists to relax the severity of their standards with easier facilities for exhibition, and we have but to look back on the work of the various artists showing at the International to be satisfied of this. A sign of artistic activity these new exhibitions may be sometimes, just as an escape from the safety valve may indicate high pressure in the boiler. We have been assured, however, that to keep on letting off steam is not the way to increase that pressure.

To breathe new life into an existing art society is then a more meritorious act than to found a new one, since the effect of the new foundation is to lessen the merit of existing shows by drawing away some of their better pictures; while, though itself perhaps superior for the first year or two, it speedily descends to their level in obedience to the same laws that made them degenerate. Could one be sure that an effete society became extinct for every vigorous new-comer, such changes might be welcomed unreservedly, and the more the merrier; but in the absence of any licensing body restricting the number of places of spiritual refreshment for each district, it behoves us to moderate the enthusiasm of our greeting to these new arrivals. We welcome such good work as we find, but we should welcome it more if it came without making a special demand on a public already inclined to hold art cheap because of its plenty, and without bringing in its wake a fresh train of inferior camp followers.

More frequently than at the other portrait painters' show the work here aims at pleasing by display. Portrait painting has, and has always had, two ways of satisfying a client: it may succeed by intimacy, the revelation of character, or in less spiritual fashion by display, by celebrating the splendour and costliness of the sitter's appointments; and there is coming into

existence among the younger portrait painters something like a generally recognized style based on the demand for the latter qualities. The prepared scale of tints which Mr. Lambert would seem to use, and to which we referred last week in dealing with the International, offers a method admirably adapted to rendering brilliantly and cleverly delicate differences of colour and texture, effects of sheen and shimmer and transparency, the pomp of the toilet. In *The Old Dress* in the present exhibition he attempts a *tour de force* in this region—loses his way slightly in the elaborate scheme, and recovers himself by the use of a rather dirty glaze. The face meanwhile is a somewhat perfunctory detail of the composition, and not to be compared with the two heads by the same painter (one of himself and one of Mr. Derwent Wood) which are among the best portraits here. The rank and file of the exhibition, with but slightly varying methods, make for the same goal of the "show portrait" that speaks of the vain-glory both of sitter and painter, and in this assertiveness the want of beauty is rather oppressive. Mr. Sholto Douglas, however, in his *Lady Kinross* sends a healthy and pleasant picture on rather obvious lines; and Mr. Maxwell Balfour separates himself from the devotees of swagger by his whole-hearted determination to express in his head of Miss Juliet Ogilvie the charm and vitality of an exceptionally good model. On the other hand, the boys her companions are very ill painted, and the picture as a whole is unworthy of its central figure. Mr. Balfour's *Lord Milner* is by comparison a capable, but coldly official portrait. Mr. David Neave has some portraits in which the subject is quite as much the room as the sitter; and once more is seen in the rendering of furniture and stuffs, of the glimmer of marquetry and curtains, the essential suitability of the prevailing fashion of painting for expressing the vain elaborations and elegancies of up-to-date luxury. It is a painting with the note of style and sometimes of severity, but essentially unhomely.

Mr. Fergusson stands somewhat apart from other modern portrait painters in his zeal for unadorned constructiveness of paint. The painter here may swagger, but the sitter has small opportunity when she delivers herself into the hands of an artist who disdains to record the merely pleasant, who refuses to set down any variations of form and colour the relations of which with the central facts of his design he cannot clearly trace, and whose power of correlation appears to be limited. In theory such reserve is admirable, but in practice—allied to an impatience that makes him get to work too quickly, or an indifference to his models that makes him content with a scornful caricature of nature—it leads him to reject elements of vital importance for a true representation of nature. He reduces his picture almost to monochrome, and renders flesh as a harsh repellent substance very different from the pulpiness of fact. Yet we discern some moral grit in this narrow and, in our opinion, mistaken concentration that may lead to something fine when the mellowing years have brought an easier, a more genial and human outlook.

MR. CHARLES SHANNON'S PICTURES.

JUST this moral grit that in so strange disguise we find in the work of Mr. Fergusson seems wanting in that of Mr. Charles Shannon at the Leicester Gallery, and we

would fain hope that his rather flaccid art, which finds such enthusiastic appreciation from a certain section of artistic opinion, does not truthfully represent the fibre of latter-day English character. Mr. Shannon cares little for draughtsmanship, as draughtsmanship was understood by Ingres when he called it "the probity of art"; but he has some sense of that part of it which was one of the discoveries of the later Renaissance painters, and which consists in a nice eye for the balance of more or less foreshortening in a figure as intimately bound up with a similar balance of greater or less undulation in its lines. By virtue of this sense he is able easily, if approximately, so to suggest a figure that at any rate you know what pose is intended, though the niceties of structure may be to seek. To amateurs in a certain stage of development the power of thus vaguely adumbrating a pose is more suggestive, more "poetic," than completer realization; and in other departments of art—in his observance of values, his management of colour—Mr. Shannon, if without severe accomplishment, has a kind of superficial aptitude that enables him at least to distribute the interest evenly over his picture by tactful, if arbitrary stressing or dulling of this detail or that. In fact, to any one sufficiently receptive he imparts a mood, but fails to endow it with any high degree of beauty. That mood is usually one of decadent languor, a sentiment for which, especially in so self-conscious and slightly affected a form as this, Englishmen have usually felt something like impatience, even when it is expressed exquisitely, and Mr. Shannon does not express it exquisitely.

It is the more curious to find such work highly appreciated because not so many years ago the late William Stott of Oldham painted certain pictures in a similar mood (the beautiful 'Wood Nymph' may be cited as an example), which were received with the moderate enthusiasm which the British public reserves for what it does not understand. Yet Stott's pictures had a power of quiet tones and heavy languorous colour very different from Mr. Shannon's slippery facility and harsh alternations of raw pink with a wicked "prussian" green. The only reason we can see for Mr. Shannon's succeeding where Stott (commercially) failed is his power of turning out with facility pictures having that strong family likeness that we regard nowadays as individuality. These circumstances lead us to deprecate the exaggerated praise that has been awarded in certain quarters to a painter who offers the worst examples to young students. This work is neither naive on the one hand nor scholarly on the other.

MR. TOM MOSTYN'S EXHIBITION.

MR. MOSTYN'S show at the Doré Gallery reveals a painter of temperament, if of imperfect accomplishment. The rich and glowing "Monticellian" colour of the sky and distance and indicated figures in *The Edge of the Wood* is a passage of painting that shows him at his best. It is divided into three upright decorative panels by the stems of a couple of pine trees, and the painting of these pine trees (necessary as they are to the design, and playing their parts in it with approximate correctness) is far from reaching the same high level; indeed, throughout his work Mr. Mostyn shows himself wanting in the clairvoyant sympathy with tree and foreground form which alone enable a painter of this sort to represent material adequately.

We say this because Mr. Mostyn, if we judge him aright, is temperamentally in-

capable of the patient delineation of facts in front of nature. His only method is to proceed constructively from his inner sense of things. This sense is strong enough to enable him in *The Lane*, for example, to seize the dramatic quality of confused woodland growth; but it fails him almost always in circumstances which call for more intimate sympathy with the growth of the individual tree, or for an elaborate analysis of the struggle of forces recorded in a bit of water-worn bank. In the foreground of his pictures he betrays himself as an excitable and muddled observer, wanting in leisure and thoroughness, in the power of divining what characteristics of his material are accidental, what essential to the matter in hand.

His large *Doss House* is less painterlike in appeal than the best of the landscapes. The scale is so big as to demand either a use of paint more variously and richly constructive, or a more immediately eloquent linear design. As it wants these, its appeal is based less on beauty than illisiveness, which is necessarily the lower ground; yet one is agreeably surprised with the signs of grit and painstaking thoroughness in the work. It is stodgy, and does not shake our opinion that his gifts are entirely in the opposite direction; but could such pluck in the facing of difficulties be applied to more abstract fields of intelligent and generalized observation, there might emerge a landscape painter of considerable dynamic force.

LORD HUNTINGFIELD'S 'PICTURE GALLERY' AT THE OLD MASTERS.

LORD HUNTINGFIELD'S 'Picture Gallery' since its appearance at Burlington House is a work that has attracted the attention, and exercised the ingenuity, of all who are interested in the works of the Flemish painters, both the contemporaries of Rubens and those of an earlier generation. In the absence of an authoritative exposition of the problems raised by this picture by any one intimately acquainted with the art of the time—by M. Rooses, for instance—the following notice may be of interest to some of your readers.

The inscription "G. v. Haecht 1628," that may be found in the little picture of Danaë on the floor in front, may safely be regarded as the signature of the painter. The authorities (Nagler, Wurzbach, &c.) knew only of one artist of that name living at that time (his Christian name, however, is Willem): he was a draughtsman and engraver, and of him we are told that he lived and died in the house of Cornelis van der Geest, the rich merchant and patron of all the arts. That we have here the gallery of this famous collector is quite certain. Over the door to the right we see his arms; for crest, the dove (of the Holy Spirit, *De Geest*) resting on a skull; the motto "Vive l'Esprit" is again to the point.

Cornelis van der Geest is known in England to all lovers of art from his portrait by Vandyke in the National Gallery; but his relation to Rubens and his position in the art world of the time may not be known to all. The great painter speaks of this Mæcenas in 1638—it was shortly after his death—"as the best of men, the oldest of his friends, one in whom since his youth he has found a protector." Van der Geest had a fine house overlooking the Schelde: in Van Haecht's picture we see the wide river through the windows to the left. The house stood close by the church of St. Walburga, the oldest in Antwerp—a church some time since destroyed. It was for this church,

at the instigation of his patron, that Rubens in 1610 painted his great 'Erection of the Cross'; and shortly after this what is perhaps the most remarkable of his early easel pictures, the 'Battle of the Amazons,' was painted for his wealthy friend. A charming rendering of this last picture occupies a prominent place above the figures of the Archdukes in Van Haecht's 'Picture Gallery.'

But now I must point out that, although one picture is dated 1628; the scene represented belongs to an earlier time. The Archduke Albert, whom we see seated beside his wife the Infanta Isabella, died in 1621. We must, indeed, probably go back to a still earlier date. We are informed that in 1615 the Archdukes paid a State visit to Van der Geest's house, when, after a water joust on the Schelde, they inspected his gallery of works of art. Van Haecht's picture is probably a record of this visit.

I shall not attempt to identify the figures introduced, but a word must be said of the pictures on the walls and on the floor. Van der Geest, we are told, was—what was exceptional at this time—an enthusiast for the early masters of the Flemish School: he was above all an admirer of Quentin Matsys; he had saved that painter's tombstone from destruction, and finally had had it placed by the door of the Cathedral, where it still stands. The Archdukes, it is recorded, were anxious to purchase from him a 'Madonna with two Cherries' by Matsys; but Van der Geest would by no means part with it. Now turn to our picture. Here we see a large panel of the Madonna (the Virgin holds two cherries in her hand); the picture has been brought out and placed before the Archdukes.* The owner stands beside it, and with a somewhat depreciatory air points to his treasure; with more eager gesture Rubens hangs over Albert's shoulder and pours into his ear praises of the work. The Archduke does not, indeed, show much interest; in fact, the impression given is of a dealer and his confederates forcing a work upon a somewhat indifferent purchaser.

The portrait that hangs over the 'Battle of the Amazons' may well be by Matsys. At any rate, it is probably the picture from which Rubens copied that 'Portrait of Paracelsus' that has passed from Blenheim to the Brussels Gallery; the original may perhaps now be at Nancy. There are here on the walls other portraits that belong to the early sixteenth century, but the picture of greatest interest is an elaborately painted interior with a nude female figure. This is a simple genre scene: the lady is at her toilet; the attendant, with white wimple on her head, stands by: there is no trace of King David or of the Elders. This picture cannot be identified, but the original must have been by Jan van Eyck or by one of his immediate followers. There is a panel by one of this school at Leipsic, where a very similar nude figure is surrounded by banderoles; in both pictures a white Bolognese dog lies on a mat; but in the Leipsic picture the subject is an allegorical one.

Finally, as to the man with hat on head and the order of the Golden Fleece on breast. This cannot be the Infante Ferdinand, as has been suggested: even in 1628 the Cardinal Infant was a heedless youth.

EDWARD DILLON.

A MAKER OF OLD MASTERS.

Hill Top, Midhurst.

THE third article on the National Gallery Foreign Catalogue says:—

* This picture, or perhaps rather a copy of it, is in the Gallery of Amsterdam.

"The comparatively recent acquisition 'The Baptism of our Lord' (No. 1431), which is officially ascribed to Perugino, should be frankly labelled as an old copy of one of the panels of the predella by that artist in the Rouen Museum."

There can be no doubt that this picture is not even an old copy, but is a modern work, by Michele Micheli, of Florence, painted in the first half of the nineteenth century.

This artist was a well-known and clever imitator, as well as copyist, of works by Raphael, Perugino, Lorenzo di Credi, and others. His talent in counterfeiting works by the old masters was as great, unfortunately, as that of Bastianini in sculpture.

When in Florence during the eighties I collected much information from the archives, and from antiquity-dealers since dead, regarding Micheli; but the subject, although of great interest, is too long for a letter, though I hope at some future date to be able to deal with it. My reason for not having done so earlier is that some of my information—more particularly photographs of pictures by Micheli—was confidential, and without it any article would have been incomplete.

A considerable number of pictures by his hand probably exist as "old masters" in private collections in England and elsewhere. These would be difficult to trace, though I think they appear from time to time, and are more or less unmistakable when seen.

It was, I believe, in the year 1888 that the picture No. 1431, mentioned in your article, was offered or bequeathed to the National Gallery; and on hearing of this I called on Sir F. Burton, then the Director, who after looking through my notes, and on further examination of the picture, came to the conclusion that it was a forgery executed by Micheli, and refused to accept it.

I was much surprised some years later when I found the picture hanging on the walls of the National Gallery as a Perugino, and I need hardly mention that Sir F. Burton was not then the Director.

The first trace I have of the picture is that it was sold as a Raphael by Farrer, the, at that time, well-known dealer, to one of the leading connoisseurs in London (since dead), who subsequently returned it; and on Mr. Farrer's death it appeared at the sale of his collection as a Timoteo della Vite, and was bought by a London dealer for 300*l.*, from whom it was purchased by (I believe) Mr. de Zoete, of Blackheath.

I have never seen the picture at Rouen alluded to by the writer of the article, but there can, I think, be little doubt that the picture No. 1431 in the National Gallery was adapted by Micheli, with but little variation, from one of the same subject by Giannicola Manni in the Louvre (Coll. Nap. III., selected out of the Campana Collection; *vide* also M. Charles Blanc, 'École Ombrienne,' p. 4, note). Sir F. Burton in one of his letters written to me in 1888 says:—

"The pictures selected from the Campana Collection were not exhibited and catalogued until 1863. It is evident, therefore, that Micheli must have had access to the Manni while it was in the Campana Gallery, if not earlier."

He may also have seen the Rouen picture. Micheli died in September, 1848.

R. C. FISHER.

Fine-Art Gossip.

MR. P. G. KONODY in the *Daily Mail* of Tuesday last took up the subject of our corrections in the Foreign Catalogue of the National Gallery. On Wednesday Sir Charles Holroyd announced in the same

paper that a new edition was in course of preparation. We shall be glad to have some details as to this, and due acknowledgment of our critic's labours. We have further corrections in hand, which would be useful for a thorough revision, if such is to be expected. The plea of "printers' errors" is wholly insufficient to cover the deficiencies of which we gave samples.

A CLOSER inspection of the Catalogue of the Old Masters Exhibition at Burlington House reveals further mistakes. The description of the portrait (No. 87) of 'The Hon. Anne Duncombe, afterwards Countess of Radnor,' by Gainsborough, is inaccurate. The lady holds in her right hand a high-crowned hat in which is a feather, and not "a feather fan." This mistake is unfortunate, as the portraits of this lady and of the Hon. Frances Duncombe, afterwards Mrs. Bowater, have often been confused. There is another blunder in the description of Wilkie's 'Chelsea Pensioners reading the Waterloo Despatch' (No. 131). The Royal Academy Catalogue of 1822, which is here quoted at some length, gave the date as "Thursday, June 22nd, 1815," and not, as here quoted, as "July 22nd, 1815." Surely, the month in which Waterloo was fought might be known, or discovered by research.

AN important acquisition for the National Gallery of Ireland is a 'Holy Family' by Jacopo Palma, which has just been hung in the Italian Room. This is the only example of Palma in the Irish national collection.

THE NEW ENGLISH ART CLUB paid its first visit to the west of England last Wednesday, when the Marquis of Bath opened an exhibition in the Victoria Art Gallery, Bath. This is the fifth exhibition the Club has held outside London. Its previous shows were at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Bradford, Liverpool, and Manchester.

THE annual exhibition of the Royal Amateur Society will be held, by permission of Lady Naylor Leyland, at Hyde Park House, 60, Knightsbridge, S.W., from the 7th to the 10th of March inclusive. The section of pictures on loan will consist mainly of engravings of beautiful children, English, Scotch, and Irish. Those who are willing to lend such pictures should communicate with the Hon. Sybil Legh, 10, Sloane Square, S.W.

THE Oxford Slade Professor of Fine Art, Mr. C. J. Holmes, will deliver six lectures at his studio in the University Galleries on Wednesday afternoons, beginning on Wednesday next, and ending on March 6th. The subject will be 'Raphael in Rome.' The lectures will be illustrated with lantern-slides, and will have special reference to the drawings by Raphael in the University Galleries.

THE February number of *The Burlington Magazine*, after dealing with 'The Business Aspect of the National Gallery Catalogue,' discusses the neglect of modern painting in relation to the Winter Exhibition at Burlington House and to the modern "arts-and-crafts movement." An article on Gobel tapestry by Lady St. John follows, illustrated with four plates. The frontispiece is a photograph of Messrs. Dowdeswell's newly discovered Palma representing two nymphs by a river bank, on which Mr. Claude Phillips contributes a note; and there are two special plates—Blake's 'Creation of Eve,' and the portrait of a lady by Ambrogio de Predis now on view in the Winter Exhibition. The identity of the subject of this portrait is discussed by Miss A. Edith Hewett, who was the first to draw attention to its importance. Mr. A. J. Finberg has a note on the authenticity of the painting of

'The Devil's Bridge, St. Gothard,' attributed to Turner in the same exhibition; Mr. Lawrence Weaver continues his description of London's leaded spires; and the number also includes articles on prints and archaeology by Mr. Campbell Dodgson and Mr. J. L. Myres.

SUBSCRIBERS to the Vasari Society will shortly receive the thirty-two reproductions of drawings by the Old Masters which the Committee are issuing for the second year. The originals are in the collections of Mrs. Stanley Leighton, Messrs. Holland, Horne, Loeser, Salting, Ricketts, and Shannon, and the Fitzwilliam and British Museums. Mr. Sidney Colvin writes on three studies by Rogier van der Weyden and his school, a St. Veronica by the Master of Flémalle, and two sketches by Carpaccio; Mr. Reginald Blomfield on two architectural studies by Michelangelo; Mr. Campbell Dodgson on drawings by Mathias Grünewald and Wolf Huber; and Mr. Roger Fry, Mr. Ricketts, and Mr. Binyon on other artists, among whom may be mentioned Domenico Ghirlandajo, Marco Zoppo, Domenico Campagnola, Rubens, Van Dyck, Rembrandt, and Sir Peter Lely.

MR. WERNER LAURIE is issuing 'Essays on Glass, China, and Silver.' The author, Mr. F. Coenen, is the curator of one of the most interesting museums in Europe—the Willet Holthuysen Museum in Amsterdam—and in his book discourses on the many treasures under his charge. The work is illustrated with thirty-two fine reproductions of vases and silver-work.

THE same publisher will shortly publish an illustrated volume on 'Old London Churches' by Mr. T. Francis Bumpus. The book is divided into four sections, dealing with mediæval and early post-Reformation churches, Wren's buildings, the churches of Queen Anne and the Georges, and those built since the Gothic revival.

AMONG other articles, the February number of *The Antiquary* will contain 'English Mediæval Window Glass,' by Mr. E. Wyndham Hulme; 'Notes on some Rutland Antiquities,' illustrated, by Mr. V. B. Crowther-Beynon; 'Some Extracts from an Eighteenth-Century Notebook,' by the Rev. V. L. Whitechurch; 'Coulston Church, Surrey,' illustrated, by Mr. J. S. Ham; a further instalment of 'London Signs and their Associations,' by Mr. J. Holden MacMichael; and 'A Memorial of Hanworth Manor,' illustrated, by Mr. J. Tavenor-Perry.

FINE-ART EXHIBITIONS.

SAT. (Jan. 26).—Mr. Geoffrey Birkbeck's Water-Colours of Italian Villas and English Gardens, Private View, New Dudley Gallery.
—Exhibition of Modern Photography, Press View, New English Art Club.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Symphony Concert.

A LARGE portion of the Symphony Concert at Queen's Hall last Saturday afternoon was devoted to Mozart. The 'Don Juan,' 'Nozze di Figaro,' and 'Zauberflöte' Overtures were played, and followed by the so-called 'Jupiter' Symphony; and thus the composer was represented by his greatest orchestral music. Mozart, by the way, was born on January 27th, 1756, and this selection was evidently intended as a commemoration of the anniversary of that event. The programme included

Sibelius's symphonic poem 'Finlandia,' an interesting, modern, yet not extravagant work, which is certainly destined to form part of the regular repertory of these concerts. This and the delicate 'Après-midi d'un Faune' by Debussy were effectively rendered under Mr. Henry J. Wood's safe and able guidance. Miss Agnes Nicholls sang the closing scene of 'Götterdämmerung' with marked success.

BECHSTEIN HALL.—Mr. Gottfried Galston's Pianoforte Recitals.

LAST Thursday week Mr. Gottfried Galston gave the first of a cycle of five pianoforte recitals at Bechstein Hall. His programme, entirely devoted to Bach, included several familiar works, and Signor Busoni's clever transcriptions of the Organ Prelude and Fugue in D, the Violin Chaconne, and four Choral Preludes, but others by no means familiar. In 1704 Johann Jakob, an elder brother of Johann Sebastian, joined the Swedish Guard as oboist, and on that occasion Bach wrote his only specimen of programme-music, the 'Capriccio on the Departure of a Dear Beloved Brother,' no doubt influenced by Kuhnau's sonatas illustrating Bible stories, which had appeared four years previously. The music is delightful, and the balance between form and fancy admirably preserved. Mr. Galston played two fugues from the 'Wohltemperiertes Clavier,' and if his reading of the one in C sharp minor was not wholly to our liking, it was very clear, and there was a warmth of expression which made one feel that the masterly structure of the music was not its sole title to admiration. Mr. Galston is an able pianist, and his touch is highly sympathetic. He gave a Beethoven recital on Thursday; and Chopin, Liszt, and Brahms will follow in turn. The scheme is interesting. The Liszt programme includes the seven numbers of 'Italy,' the second part of the 'Années de Pèlerinage,' poetical pieces by no means hackneyed.

Musical Gossip.

There was a very satisfactory performance of 'Die Walküre' at Covent Garden on Tuesday evening. Frau Litvinne impersonated Brünnhilde. She is, as we have already noted, an accomplished singer and actress, yet her assumption of the warrior maiden seems to us to lack emotion. Frau von Westhoven as Sieglinde acted in very sympathetic manner, and her singing was good, though her voice seems to require more power. Fräulein Rosa Olitzka's rendering of the Fricka music was excellent, while Herr Feinhals was an impressive Wotan. Herr Krauss was at his best as Siegmund. Herr Franz Schalk conducted for the first time, and with great and well-deserved success. Three performances of 'Fidelio' are to be given under the direction of M. Eugène Ysaÿe, and these will no doubt arouse great interest.

In 'Der Fliegende Holländer,' performed last Thursday week, Herr Th. Bertram and Frau von Westhoven were the Dutchman and Senta, but, though good, neither was convincing. Herr Nikisch conducted.

THE revival of 'The Gondoliers' on Tuesday last at the Savoy Theatre was not, on the whole, so attractive as that of 'The Yeomen of the Guard.' The play is not so well proportioned. Still, there were, it need hardly be said, many delightful numbers, and the whole was far in advance of the "musical comedy" of the day. Mr. Workman made the most of his part of the Grand Duke, and is now generally recognized as a comedian of the first rank. Mr. Clulow was also prominent as the Grand Inquisitor. "Take a pair of sparkling eyes" and other famous tunes were rendered with taste and finish; and the general work of the performers, both named and unnamed, is such as to justify a steady run of success.

THE day of first performance at Dresden of 'Der Freischütz' was given last week as the 22nd instead of the 26th of January, 1822.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

Sec. Sunday Society Concert, 3.30, Queen's Hall.
— Sunday League Concert, 7, Queen's Hall.
Mon.—Sir. German Opera, Covent Garden.
Mon. Extra Broadwood Concert, the Rose Quartet, 3, Aeolian Hall.
— London Symphony Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.
— Misses Sassard's Vocal Recital, 8, Aeolian Hall.
Tues. London Trio, 8.30, Aeolian Hall.
— Miss Marie Hall's Farewell Concert, 8.15, Queen's Hall.
— Extra Broadwood Concert, the Rose Quartet, 8.30, Aeolian Hall.
Wed. Royal Amateur Orchestral Concert, 8.30, Queen's Hall.
Thurs. Twelve o'Clock, Noon, Aeolian Hall.
— Mr. Gottfried Galston's Chopin Recital, 3, Bechstein Hall.
— Broadwood Concert, 8.30, Aeolian Hall.
Fri. Mr. Harold Bauer's Pianoforte Recital, 8.15, Bechstein Hall.
Sat. Popular Concert for Children and Young Students, 3, Steinway Hall.
— Miss L. Sperker and Mr. L. Sametini's Vocal and Violin Recital, 3, Bechstein Hall.
— Symphony Concert, Queen's Hall Orchestra, 3, Queen's Hall.

DRAMA

THE WEEK.

NEW ROYALTY.—*Le Marquis de Priola: Pièce en trois Actes et en Prose.* Par Henri Lavedan.

FOR the resumption at the Royalty of French performances M. Gaston Mayer has chosen one of the most remarkable and fiercely disputed dramas of the last five years. First produced at the Comédie Française on February 7th, 1902, 'Le Marquis de Priola' may claim to be one of the most daring presentations of French manners—bolder even than 'Le Prince d'Aurec' of the same author, given ten years previously at the Vaudeville. Its aim—but too successfully accomplished, and in part avowed—is to paint a Don Juan of modern days, a man in his pursuit of woman beset by no scruple, remorseless, passionate, satanic—a monstrous growth of atavism, whose ancestors shared in the orgies of the Borgias, the *petits soupers* of the Regent, and were friends and allies of the regicide Saint-Just. A worthy descendant of these gentry, the Marquis de Priola tries to indoctrinate with his pessimistic and hopeless creed a certain Pierre Morain, whose self-elected Mentor and friend he constitutes himself, and in whom he hopes to see a renewal of his own youth. Pierre is, in fact, though this is not at first apparent, his own son, the offspring of an illicit connexion with the wife of a soldier, whom her falsehood has driven to suicide. Never was an ambition more hopeless than that of the Marquis. For once heredity is at fault. Instead of inheriting his father's views as to the place in the universe of women,

Pierre is the possessor of all bourgeois virtues and respectabilities, looks upon his father's teaching with ill-concealed aversion, and essays vainly to lure him back to better sentiments. One service—unexpected and undesired—the youth can render the man in whom he finds his father. Aided by a knowledge of medicine he has acquired, Pierre sees that his father's career is nearly at an end, and that paralysis, the outcome of his vices and misdeeds, has him already in its clutch. So exact is his diagnosis that the moment of dispute is that of the seizure. By witness more exact than his own, he learns that the ataxia to which the Marquis succumbs is not necessarily fatal, and that, blind and crippled, the sufferer may drag on years of wretchedness. "Quelle horreur! Et qui le soignera? qui le gardera?" says one of the characters, to which this degenerate descendant of the friend of Saint-Just answers simply, "Moi."

While it is with the more humanizing touches of the play that we have dealt, it is in the more cynical that its power is best illustrated. A wonderful point in it is the velleity (it is nothing more) of the Marquis to regain his ascendancy over the wife who, having acquired her freedom by divorce, is now happily remarried. In this whim, such is his power over whatever is feminine, he all but succeeds. The means he employs in its pursuance are scarcely to be commended, however, on the score of delicacy. M. Le Bargy, the original exponent of the Marquis de Priola, resumes the part, and is, as he has always been, the mainstay of the piece. A performance with more of breadth, security, power, and distinction is not easily to be imagined. In a generally effective cast Mlle. Gabrielle Dorziat was specially noteworthy.

APOLLO.—*The Stronger Sex: a New Play in Three Acts.* By John Valentine.—*The Peacemaker: a Comedy in One Act.* By E. M. Bryant.

A FLAVOUR of amateurishness marks the new and very agreeable programme produced by Mr. Otho Stuart at the Apollo. Both the novelties given there on Tuesday night were the works of untried authors, and in one case, it may be inferred, of a lady; they were sympathetic in theme, and juvenile in treatment, while both also received the cheeriest and most exemplary of greetings. Neither is altogether new in subject, though both have considerable freshness, and constitute together a bright and appetizing entertainment.

'The Stronger Sex' is an inversion of a subject often treated by H. J. Byron, and is an apparent application to women of the lesson of 'Not such a Fool as He Looks.' Beguiled by her innocent and girlish appearance, the Hon. Warren Barrington is at no pains in hiding from Mary, the heroine, on the day of his nuptials with her, that he has married her for her money, and that all the love of which he is capable goes to her friend Joan

Foraythe. Forewarned is forearmed, and the little millionaire—for such Mary is—takes on herself the management of her own estates, and soon brings her spouse, whose ways are sufficiently brutal, into subjection. What belongs to stageland rather than to the workaday world is the fact that in so doing she effects her conquest, and secures his happiness and her own also. Sufficiently obvious is this main story. What in a sense is an underplot, consisting of the substitution, in the minds of the husband and wife, of confidence for the jealousy which both have felt, has some comic spirit. Not very dramatic is all this, but it is pleasant and amusing. A dramatic movement is in the air, but is carefully avoided, and the whole remains, to the playgoer's contentment, in the land of drawing-room comedy. The principal parts, mixedly English and American, are well played. Miss Boucicault as the heroine is admirable; Miss Lilian Braithwaite is attractive as her friend and temporarily her rival; and Mr. Leonard Boyne acts with sincerity as the hero. Comic personages are brightly played by Miss Marie Illington and Mr. Paul Arthur.

In 'The Peacemaker' Elizabeth Laven-
dar discovers that her friends Mr. and Mrs. Harford have carried nuptial disagreement to the point of separation. Determined to carry out her own functions as Peacemaker, she asks them to meet at dinner, and arranges that her only other guest shall be summoned away, thus enabling her to leave them alone and trust to the influence of contiguity and occasion. Though not apparently the best that could be devised for the purpose, these methods succeed, and are doubly blessed, since in securing the happiness of her friends the Peacemaker also establishes her own. A pretty, if slight and unconvincing piece is agreeably played.

Dramatic Gossip.

THE facts, now generally announced, that Mr. Tree will appear on April 12th under the patronage, or at least in the presence, of the German Emperor, at the new Royal Opera-House, Berlin, in 'Antony and Cleopatra,' and that during the visit, 'Hamlet,' 'The Merry Wives of Windsor,' and 'Twelfth Night' will also be given, are calculated to inspire much interest. Since the days when Harriet Constance Smithson accompanied Macready to the Théâtre Italien and the Odéon, attracting the Parisian public, and espousing Hector Berlioz, similar experiments have not been unfamiliar in France, where Charles J. Mathews played in French in 'Un Anglais Timide.' They have been rarer in Germany, where Sir Charles Wyndham was seen a few years ago. Obvious reasons present themselves against Mr. Tree's acting, as he is presumably capable of doing, in German. First among these comes the necessity of finding a company similarly qualified.

THE death is announced from Paris of Louis Pierre Laugier, a well-known *sociétaire* of the Comédie Française. The deceased actor, who was in his forty-third year, was a pupil of Delaunay, and made his début as Orgon in 'Tartuffe.' Among pieces in which he

created a good impression in the modern repertory were 'Thermidor,' 'La Mégère apprivoisée,' 'Par le Glaive,' 'La Reine Juana,' 'Cabotins,' 'Les Romanesques,' 'Les Tenaillies,' 'Les Fossiles,' &c. He was elected *sociétaire* on January 1st, 1894. He had undertaken the professorship at the Conservatoire resigned by M. de Féraudy.

THE next of the "Vedrenne-Barker Matinées" will consist of the production on February 5th of Mr. George Bernard Shaw's comedy 'The Philanderers,' which will be acted by a cast including Mr. Ben Webster, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. Luigi Lablache, Miss Wynne Matthison, and Miss Lillah McCarthy.

'THE PALACE OF PUCK,' a comedy by Mr. William Locke, has been secured by Mr. Frederick Harrison for production at the Haymarket.

'A WORM AND SOME EARLY BIRDS' is the title of a new comedy by Mr. Frederick Lonsdale, an author untried as yet, which has been secured by Mr. Frank Curzon.

MR. JERRARD GRANT ALLEN promises the production of 'The Cherub and the Houseboat,' an original comedy by Mr. Richard Kennedy Cox.

At his Shakespeare week at Stratford-on-Avon Mr. Benson counts on the assistance of Mr. and Mrs. Forbes Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Boucher, Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. H. B. Irving, and Miss Evelyn Millard. His programme includes the production of 'Don Quixote,' by Messrs. G. E. Morrison and R. P. Stewart.

EARLY in February the English Drama Society proposes to produce 'The Hour,' a comedy by Mr. Nugent Monck, and 'Cleopatra in India,' by Mr. Arthur Symons.

On February 2nd 'Amasis' will be played at the Criterion for the last time.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—R. N.—A. L.—A. R.—S. M. K. K. Received.

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Editorial Communications should be addressed to "THE EDITOR"—Advertisements and Business Letters to "THE PUBLISHERS"—at the Office, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, E.C. Published Weekly by JOHN C. FRANCIS and J. EDWARD FRANCIS at Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, E.C., and Printed by J. EDWARD FRANCIS, Athenæum Press, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, E.C. Agents for Scotland, Messrs. BELL & BRADFUTE and Mr. JOHN MENZIES, Edinburgh.—Saturday, January 26, 1907.

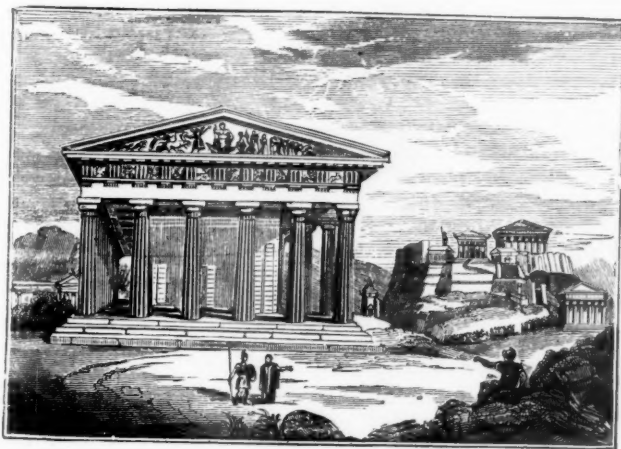
THE
ATHENÆUM

JOURNAL OF ENGLISH AND FOREIGN

Literature, Science, Fine Arts, Music
and the Drama.

PART DCCCCL.

FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY,
1907.



LONDON

PRINTED BY J. EDWARD FRANCIS, BREAM'S BUILDINGS, CHANCERY LANE, E.C.

PUBLISHED BY JOHN C. FRANCIS AND J. EDWARD FRANCIS,
AT THE OFFICE, BREAM'S BUILDINGS, CHANCERY LANE, E.C.

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